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U.S. COMMUNIST PARTY ASSISTANCE TO
FOREIGN COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS

(Medical Aid to Cuba Committee and Friends of
British Guiana)

PART 1

HEARINGS

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

NOVEMBER 14, 1962

INDEX IN PART 2

Printed for the use of the Committee on Un-American Activities



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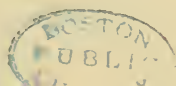
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Pt. 1

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FRANCIS E. WALTER, Pennsylvania, *Chairman*

MORGAN M. MOULDER, Missouri

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EDWIN E. WILLIS, Louisiana

WILLIAM M. TUCK, Virginia

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HENRY C. SCHADEBERG, Wisconsin

FRANCIS J. McNAMARA, *Director*

FRANK S. TAVENNER, Jr., *General Counsel*

ALFRED M. NITTLE, *Counsel*

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PUBLIC LAW 601, 79TH CONGRESS

The legislation under which the House Committee on Un-American Activities operates is Public Law 601, 79th Congress [1946]; 60 Stat. 812, which provides:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, * * **

PART 2—RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RULE X

SEC. 121. STANDING COMMITTEES

* * * * *

17. Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine Members.

RULE XI

POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

* * * * *

(q) (1) Committee on Un-American Activities.

(A) Un-American activities.

(2) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time investigations of (i) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (ii) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (iii) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.

* * * * *

RULE XII

LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT BY STANDING COMMITTEES

SEC. 136. To assist the Congress in appraising the administration of the laws and in developing such amendments or related legislation as it may deem necessary, each standing committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall exercise continuous watchfulness of the execution by the administrative agencies concerned of any laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of such committee; and, for that purpose, shall study all pertinent reports and data submitted to the Congress by the agencies in the executive branch of the Government.

RULES ADOPTED BY THE 87TH CONGRESS

House Resolution 8, January 3, 1961

* * * * *

RULE X

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. There shall be elected by the House, at the commencement of each Congress,

* * * * *

(r) Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine Members.

* * * * *

RULE XI

POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

* * * * *

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For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.

* * * * *

27. To assist the House in appraising the administration of the laws and in developing such amendments or related legislation as it may deem necessary, each standing committee of the House shall exercise continuous watchfulness of the execution by the administrative agencies concerned of any laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of such committee: and, for that purpose, shall study all pertinent reports and data submitted to the House by the agencies in the executive branch of the Government.

SYNOPSIS

Activities of two domestic organizations soliciting funds within this country to send certain supplies to Communist-oriented governments in Latin America were the subjects of committee investigations and public hearings held in Washington, D.C., on November 14 and 15, 1962.

Officials of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee and the Friends of British Guiana were interrogated by the committee at these hearings after preliminary investigations revealed that individuals with records of activity in the Communist Party, USA, were active in both organizations. The committee sought to determine whether the organizations were engaging in propaganda and other activities in order to assist the establishment of Communist-controlled governments in the Western Hemisphere, or to aid and strengthen those already in existence.

The committee announced that the legislative purpose of this inquiry was to determine whether the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 required further amendment to carry out the full intent of the act as originally set forth by the Congress.

Subcommittee Chairman Morgan M. Moulder explained at the outset of the committee's public hearings that the aim of the registration statute is "public disclosure by persons engaging in propaganda activities and other activities for or on behalf of foreign governments, foreign political parties, and other foreign principals so that the Government and the people of the United States may be informed of the identity of such persons and may appraise their statements and actions in the light of their associations and activities." Agents of foreign principals are defined in the act as including anyone who "within the United States solicits, disburses, dispenses, or collects compensation, contributions, loans, money, or anything of value, directly or indirectly, for a foreign principal * * *." Solicitation of funds used *solely* for medical assistance is presently exempt from provisions of the act, however.

"Confusion concerning the application of the act to certain organizations has resulted from court decisions," the subcommittee chairman declared, and the committee is considering the necessity for "clarification of the act" as well as amendments to "substantive provisions" and a possible increase in penalties for violation of the act.

MEDICAL AID TO CUBA COMMITTEE

The chairman and two other individuals who have served as treasurer of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee appeared before the Committee on Un-American Activities on November 14, 1962. The organization, with headquarters at 147 West 33d Street in New York City, was created in October 1961. By May of 1962, it had collected between \$20,000 and \$30,000 for the purpose of sending medical supplies to Cuba, Chairman Melitta del Villar informed the committee.

Mrs. del Villar identified herself as a Cuban-born U.S. citizen, whose real name is Emma Lopez-Nussa Carrion Amster (Mrs. Louis J. Amster). She said that Melitta del Villar is a professional name she employs in her career as a singer and entertainer in New York City. According to her testimony, the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee was formed after she had heard about an "emergency" need for medicines in Cuba and invited two or three acquaintances to get together to explore the possibilities of helping to supply medical items to that country.

Mrs. del Villar insisted in her testimony before the committee that, as chairman, she had exercised close personal supervision over the operating expenses of the organization which has continuously functioned as a charitable, nonpolitical endeavor and has not engaged in propaganda activities. As a purely "humanitarian" organization, she said, the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee had been advised by its attorney that it is exempt from the provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

Preliminary committee investigations showed that the only other individuals currently holding official positions in the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee are Dr. Louis I. Miller, its "medical director," and Sidney J. Gluck, treasurer.

Mr. Gluck was interrogated by this committee on November 14, 1962, but repeated efforts to serve a subpoena upon Dr. Miller at his home and office in New York were unsuccessful.

Dr. Miller is credited with purchasing medical supplies which have been shipped to Cuba by the MACC. Mrs. del Villar testified that she had invited him to join the MACC for that purpose, although she was not acquainted with him personally at the time and did not know anything about his background other than that he had once been active in medical aid to Spain. She also said she could not recall who had recommended Dr. Miller to her.

Committee counsel thereupon read from public records which showed that Dr. Miller was not only chairman of the Medical Bureau of the cited Communist front, the American Friends of Spanish Democracy, in the 1930's but was also one of the "principal New York contacts," during the 1940's, for Soviet espionage agent Arthur Alexandrovich Adams. Counsel further stated that Louis F. Budenz, a former member of the Communist Party's National Committee, had testified before the committee in executive session in 1951 that he had met Dr. Miller during the 1940's at enlarged meetings of the National Committee of the Communist Party.

Sidney Gluck, treasurer of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee since April 1962, was brought into the organization by Dr. Louis Miller. In his appearance before the committee on November 14, 1962, Mr. Gluck invoked the fifth amendment in response to committee questions concerning past and present membership in the Communist Party. Mrs. Mildred Blauvelt, an undercover informant within the Communist Party for the New York City Police Department, had testified publicly before the committee on May 3, 1955, that Mr. Gluck was a member of the Flatbush Club of the Communist Party. In November of 1944, she said, he was credited with having recruited 54 new members into the party.

Mr. Gluck refused to answer questions concerning literature issued by the Communist Party's Jefferson School of Social Science in New

York, identifying him as a teacher at the school in 1947 and 1950. A 1947 advertisement of the school named Mr. Gluck as instructor of a class on "Principles of Marxism, I."

The witness acknowledged that in 1961 he had engaged in activities sponsored by the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee and the National Assembly for Democratic Rights, which have been characterized as Communist fronts in official reports of this committee. He resorted to the fifth amendment again, however, when confronted with evidence that he publicly solicited the participation of young Americans in the Communist-dominated Eighth World Youth Festival held in Helsinki, Finland, in the summer of 1962.

When questioned concerning the selection of Mr. Gluck as treasurer of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, Chairman del Villar disclaimed any knowledge of his relationship with the Communist Party. "I do not screen people," she said. "I do not question anybody who wants to help Medical Aid."

Mrs. del Villar acknowledged that she had been in correspondence with local Medical Aid to Cuba Committees established in Los Angeles, Detroit, and Chicago. Although they had sent in financial contributions, she said, they were not "branches" of her organization, because the New York committee exercised no control over them. She disclaimed any personal acquaintanceship with officers of the Los Angeles Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, as well as any knowledge that several of them had appeared as witnesses in previous hearings of the Committee on Un-American Activities.

Committee counsel observed for the record that Helen Travis, secretary of the Los Angeles Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, had invoked the fifth amendment when questioned by this committee on August 30, 1950. The committee had interrogated Mrs. Travis, a former *Daily Worker* employee, regarding evidence that she had transferred \$3,700 to a "money drop" in Mexico City in an effort to finance the release of a Stalinist agent imprisoned for murdering Leon Trotsky.

Simon M. Lazarus, treasurer of the Los Angeles committee, had refused to answer committee questions on March 26, 1953, regarding his role as financier of a motion picture produced by the Communist-infiltrated International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.

Chairman del Villar was questioned about a MACC press statement which attributed the need for its activities to (1) "an unofficial boycott" by U.S. drug manufacturers, even though certain foods and medicines were exempted from the U.S. embargo on trade with Cuba, and (2) an expansion in medical care through public health services in Cuba since the Castro-led revolution. Mrs. del Villar testified that her information regarding an alleged boycott was obtained from a British "peace" magazine and other journalistic sources. She conceded, however, that her organization had experienced no difficulty in purchasing medical supplies for shipment to Cuba. She stated she personally knew of an improvement in social conditions in Cuba under Castro.

Mrs. del Villar informed the committee she would not discuss her own attitude toward the Communist dictatorship Castro has established in Cuba because her "political beliefs" were not a "question for debate" in an inquiry into a "humanitarian" organization. When confronted with committee evidence that she had been active in an ex-

tremely "political" and notoriously pro-Castro propaganda organization, the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, Mrs. del Villar admitted membership in, and speaking engagements in behalf of, the FPCC. She insisted, however, that she severed her relations with the organization several months before conceiving the idea of a medical relief agency. Her appearances for FPCC, she stated, were not "as a propagandist for the Communist regime in Cuba, but simply to say what I know to be true—that I knew Cuba and that I knew many things that happen in Cuba now which were beneficial to the Cuban people from my direct knowledge, whether it is called communism or Buddhist or Zendist * * *." (During almost 30 years' residence in the United States, Mrs. del Villar said, she had made two trips to Cuba—one in 1950 and the other in the summer of 1960.)

Contradictory testimony was received from Mrs. del Villar and a former MACC officer regarding the purpose of a telegram, bearing the signature "Pat O'Morte," which had been sent from MACC headquarters on February 23, 1962, to a private New York residence. A Western Union record of the telegram listed the names of Mrs. Amster (Mrs. del Villar) and Albert S. Baker as "subscriber."

Mrs. del Villar testified the telegram was a "fun message" which she had sent to a birthday celebration for Mr. Baker (treasurer of the MACC until his resignation in February 1962 for reasons of ill health). Mrs. del Villar said "Pat O'Morte" was herself and was a name which meant "nothing"—"just a play of words" because "sometimes they say that I am somber." She admitted, when questioned, that the word "morte" means "death" in Latin.

When the committee interrogated Mr. Baker on November 14, 1962, he insisted that he had neither received nor sent such a telegram, that his birthday was in October not February, and that his name may have appeared on the telegram as subscriber because he paid telegraphic bills for MACC. This committee has also taken note of the striking similarity between Mrs. del Villar's allegedly meaningless alias, "Pat O'Morte," and the slogan popular in revolutionary Cuba: "Patria o muerte (Country or death)."

DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICAL AID TO CUBA

Members of the committee pointed out to Chairman del Villar that Communist governments in East Europe have made political use of food and medical relief by distributing them so as to reward Communist collaborators and punish those not considered loyal to the Communist regime. They asked whether or not there was any followup by the MACC on the distribution of its supplies in Cuba. Mrs. del Villar answered that there was no followup and that she was ignorant of past Communist misuse of relief supplies. She nevertheless expressed "complete confidence" that the supplies were being distributed in Cuba on the basis of need. She said medical supplies which have been purchased with contributions to MACC (after an approximate 14-percent deduction for operating expenses) are sent to the National Hospital in Havana. She said the hospital director, Dr. Martha Frayde, communicated with MACC on Cuban medical needs.

After interrogating officers of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, this committee received testimony on November 15, 1962, from three

Cuban doctors who have taken asylum in the United States since Castro's assumption of power: Dr. X, a surgeon who left Cuba several months prior to his appearance before the committee and whose identity was withheld to prevent possible reprisals against relatives still in Cuba, and Drs. Emilio V. Soto and Jose G. Tremols, Cuban pediatricians, who arrived in this country in 1960.

All of the doctors testified to a shortage of medical supplies in Cuba. Dr. Soto offered the opinion that the shortage as of August 1960, when he left Cuba, had been created by Castro, who wanted to make it appear the United States was to blame. He explained that American drug manufacturing firms were still operating in Cuba and supplying medicines to the Cuban medical profession at that time.

Dr. X stated that, prior to his departure from Cuba in 1962, he saw very few American medical supplies and he believed the shortage was caused by the Cuban Government's inability to buy sufficient quantities and Soviet failure to provide the quality medical supplies to which Cubans are accustomed. Dr. X noted that no private hospitals remained in Communist Cuba and that the Cuban Government controlled all medical supplies, which would include the distribution of relief shipments from the United States. This physician said that, on one occasion, he had observed that medical tablets bearing the name of an American laboratory were packaged in cases labeled to indicate that they came from an East European Communist nation.

Dr. Tremols recounted occasions in 1960 when a Cuban hospital, still being operated privately, had to rely on one of its interns with "good relations with the government" to obtain needed medical supplies. Each of the three doctors testified that Dr. Martha Frayde, director of the National Hospital in Havana, has the reputation in Cuba of being a Communist.

FRIENDS OF BRITISH GUIANA

An organization known as Friends of British Guiana made its appearance in New York City early in 1962. It had the avowed purpose of raising "a few thousand dollars" to buy printing equipment for Cheddi Jagan's governing party in British Guiana.

Advertisements placed in some publications by the Friends of British Guiana in April and May 1962 and introduced as exhibits during the committee hearings on the organization on November 15, 1962, frankly explained that "Dr. Jagan's elected government relies upon one crudely printed, totally inadequate weekly paper to explain its position to the people." The advertisements declared: "A political movement or government without the means to convey its program to the broadest masses of the people operates under a severe handicap. Friends of British Guiana in this country have accordingly determined to provide Dr. Jagan's movement, the People's Progressive Party, with a linotype machine, photoengraving equipment, and other essential printing machinery" so that it can issue a daily newspaper and "meet its important political obligations."

British Guiana is a former colonial possession of Great Britain which has almost complete autonomy in internal affairs, and its government recently has been engaged in negotiations for complete independence. The local ruling party is the aforementioned People's

Progressive Party, whose leader, Cheddi Jagan, holds the post of Premier of the Government of British Guiana. A general strike and rioting erupted in British Guiana in February 1962 and was settled only after British troops arrived on the scene at the request of the Jagan government. In its April appeals for funds to help Dr. Jagan's movement establish a daily newspaper, the newly formed Friends of British Guiana stated:

In a recent *Guardian*¹ interview Janet Jagan, wife of the Prime Minister of British Guiana, declared that one of the chief reasons for the February riots in Georgetown was the government's lack of a daily paper to explain its new budget to the people.

Publicity issued by the Friends of British Guiana referred to Jagan's political followers as "embattled friends of democracy" and his opponents in British Guiana as "reactionaries." In contrast, an official British Commission of Inquiry into the February disturbances in British Guiana found that some of the opposition to Dr. Jagan and his local government was motivated by the belief that his policies were "leading the country towards Communism." The Royal Commission observed that Dr. Jagan had evaded answering its questions as to whether he was a Communist. The Commission concluded: "There is very little doubt that many of his speeches and some of his deeds gave rise to the apprehension that despite his evasions and profession to the contrary, he was acting as a communist." The Royal Commission quoted statements made by Dr. Jagan (subsequently made part of this committee's hearing record) showing that the British Guiana Premier was an admitted Marxist who had publicly declared that "Communism is winning throughout the world—it will win everywhere."

Preliminary committee investigations revealed that the leaders of Friends of British Guiana were: Leo Huberman, provisional chairman; Michael Crenovich, vice president; and Marcia G. Rabinowitz, treasurer. The committee also ascertained that the organization had not registered with the U.S. Attorney General as a foreign agent.

The three officials of Friends of British Guiana were interrogated by this committee on November 15, 1962, but uniformly refused to answer questions concerning their activities in the organization on the grounds of possible self-incrimination.

Provisional Chairman Huberman, who is also co-editor of the "independent socialist magazine" *Monthly Review*, readily discussed his own views as a "Marxist," however. He informed the committee that he was an "independent Marxist-Socialist," who has never been a member of the Communist Party but who believes in "working together with others, including Communists, to the extent that their aims and methods coincide with mine." Mr. Huberman admitted having personally talked with Premier Cheddi Jagan within the past year, but refused to state whether the conversations involved the Friends of British Guiana organization.

Michael Crenovich, a New York printing pressman, has never been identified in Friends of British Guiana publicity as an officer of the organization, although he applied for a post office box for the organization on March 22, 1962, in the capacity of vice president. Mr.

¹ This is a reference to the *National Guardian*, a weekly newspaper cited in the committee's Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications as "a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia."

Crenovich's membership on the National Committee of the Communist Party in 1961 had been made public by the committee in the course of hearings which it held in November 1961 on the *Structure and Organization of the Communist Party of the United States*. In his appearance before the committee on November 15, 1962, Mr. Crenovich invoked the fifth amendment in response to all questions regarding his membership in the Communist Party. He also refused to confirm the accuracy of literature issued in 1959 by the Communist Party training school, the Faculty of Social Science, which listed him as an instructor of its courses dealing with Latin America.

Marcia Rabinowitz, publicized as treasurer of Friends of British Guiana, has been a member of the Coney Island Club of the Communist Party in the Second Assembly District, Kings County, New York, according to information received by the committee. On grounds of possible self-incrimination, Mrs. Rabinowitz refused to answer committee questions concerning her past or present membership in the Communist Party.

U.S. COMMUNIST PARTY ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGN COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS

(Medical Aid to Cuba Committee and Friends of British Guiana)

Part 1

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1962

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D.C.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to call, at 10 a.m., in the Caucus Room, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C., Hon. Morgan M. Moulder (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Subcommittee members present: Representatives Morgan M. Moulder, of Missouri; Edwin E. Willis, of Louisiana; and Gordon H. Scherer, of Ohio.

Also present: Representative Donald C. Bruce, of Indiana.

Staff members present: Francis J. McNamara, director; Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., general counsel; Alfred M. Nittle, counsel; Louis J. Russell and Neil E. Wetterman, investigators.

Mr. MOULDER. The committee will come to order.

In their legislative efforts which have as their ultimate objective the preservation and defense of our free way of life, this committee and its predecessor committees have directed considerable attention to the subject of persons within the United States who act as agents for foreign governments.

The Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 was adopted by the Congress expressly to carry out a recommendation made in 1935 by the McCormack committee, which was a special committee to investigate un-American activities. Since the passage of this act, the present Committee on Un-American Activities has made certain legislative recommendations for its amendment, some of which have been adopted by the Congress.

Recently, on March 21, 1961, Mr. Walter, the chairman of this committee, introduced H.R. 5751, a foreign Communist propaganda control bill, which would amend certain provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act. The bill was referred to this committee for consideration.

The Foreign Agents Registration Act provides, in brief, for the registration of persons and organizations which act as agents of foreign principals, including agents of friendly foreign powers, as well as of Soviet bloc countries. The policy and purposes of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 are set forth in the act as follows:

It is hereby declared to be the policy and purpose of this act to protect the national defense, internal security, and foreign relations of the United States by requiring public disclosure by persons engaging in propaganda activities and other activities for or on behalf of foreign governments, foreign political parties, and other foreign principals so that the Government and the people of the United States may be informed of the identity of such persons and may appraise their statements and actions in the light of their associations and activities.

It is thus clear that, in dealing with the activities which the act covers, it is not the purpose of the committee to obstruct the interchange of ideas or information, but rather to preserve the integrity of free speech and communication. The U.S. Supreme Court had occasion to consider the act in *Viereck v. United States*, 318 U.S. 236. As Justice Black then pointed out:

What emerged from extended Congressional investigations, hearings and deliberations was this Act, intended to provide an appropriate method to obtain information essential for the proper evaluation of political propaganda emanating from hired agents of foreign countries. As the House and Senate Committees considering the Bill said, it "does not in any way impair the right of freedom of speech, or of a free press, or other constitutional rights." Resting on the fundamental constitutional principle that our people, adequately informed, may be trusted to distinguish between the true and the false, the bill is intended to label information of foreign origin so that hearers and readers may not be deceived by the belief that the information comes from a disinterested source. Such legislation implements rather than detracts from the prized freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment. No strained interpretation should frustrate its essential purpose. (p. 250f)

In the present hearings by this subcommittee, the committee will inquire into the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee and another organization known as the Friends of British Guiana, for the legislative purpose of determining whether the Foreign Agents Registration Act requires further amendment for its effective operation in carrying out the intent of Congress as set forth in the act.

Preliminary investigation indicates that the two previously named organizations are involved in propaganda and other activities in behalf of persons, institutions, publishing undertakings, and political parties which are not only foreign principals but also Communist instruments.

In considering the activities of such organizations, this committee will consider not only the advisability of recommending amendments to the substantive provisions of the act but also the advisability of recommending additional penalties for its violation.

Section 611(b) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act states that a foreign principal includes not only the government of foreign countries but foreign political parties and persons, and also partnerships, associations, corporations, organizations, or other combinations of individuals organized under the laws of, or having its principal place of business in, a foreign country.

Section 611(c) of the act defines "agent of a foreign principal" as, among others—

any person * * * who within the United States solicits, disburses, dispenses, or collects compensation, contributions, loans, money, or anything of value, directly or indirectly, for a foreign principal * * * .

Confusion concerning the application of the act to certain organizations has resulted from court decisions. This and other hearings of the committee may determine the necessity for clarification of the act in this regard.

The committee would be derelict in its duty if it did not devote its attention particularly to persons and organizations which, under the guise of humanitarianism, engage in deception or fraud with a view toward influencing the public and Government of the United States in their policies and relations, or that seek to promote within the United States racial, religious, or social dissension or other conflict, or have as an ultimate objective the overthrow of the Government of the United States. The never-ending tensions and disturbances, inimical to the welfare and safety of our country, frequently created by such persons and organizations, demand the attention of the Congress which has a constitutional duty to provide for the safety and welfare of these United States.

At this time I would like to call upon Congressman Willis, of Louisiana, for his comment on the question of medical aid to Cuba or other countries.

Mr. WILLIS. I think the statute referred to, the Foreign Agents Registration Act, contains an exemption with reference to people engaged in humanitarian causes, such as dissemination and distribution of medicines, impartially and without regard to political philosophy, and so on.

The point is that it has been repeatedly demonstrated that the Communist regimes have frequently in the past made political use of aid or assistance, medical or otherwise. This happened in various eastern European countries following World War II when the Communists in power there used food, clothing, and medical and other supplies sent to them for relief purposes, so-called, really to reward collaborators.

On the other hand, it was demonstrated during that experience also that anti-Communists in these areas were denied such medical assistance, and so it seems to me that it is very proper that we should

inquire into this subject, the background of it, whether this outfit or this organization—

Mr. MOULDER. Medical Aid to Cuba Committee.

Mr. WILLIS. —is really organized for humanitarian purposes as we understand those terms, or whether this is one more effort to use very fine, appealing language to disseminate Communist propaganda, and so on, so I congratulate the chairman of the committee for calling these hearings today.

Mr. MOULDER. The Chair recognizes Congressman Scherer, of Ohio.

Mr. SCHERER. Mr. Chairman, I have before me a rather lengthy telegram addressed to the House Committee on Un-American Activities—

Mr. WILLIS. Are they coming in already?

Mr. SCHERER. Yes; I understand this telegram has been given wide circulation—protesting the hearings. It has been signed by quite a few people and, so that the American people may better evaluate the content of this telegram and the charges made against the House Committee on Un-American Activities, I think we should include at this point in the record the text of the telegram and the names of the signers. I recognize many of the signatures as persons who have Communist connections, members of the Communist Party, and others who have long Communist-front records.

Mr. MOULDER. The telegram will be included in the record as suggested by Congressman Scherer.

(The telegram, Committee Exhibit No. 1, referred to appears on pp. 1849, 1850.)

Mr. MOULDER. The legislative purposes of the hearings are set forth in the resolution authorizing them, which I now read:

BE IT RESOLVED, that hearings by the Committee on Un-American Activities or a subcommittee thereof, be held in Washington, D.C., or at such other place or places as the Chairman may determine, on such date or dates as the Chairman may designate, relating to propaganda activities of members and affiliates of the Communist Party of the United States, for the following legislative purposes:

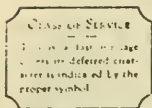
1. Consideration of the advisability of amending Title 22 USC, 611(c), by extending the definition of the term "Agent of a Foreign Principal" so as to remove any doubt as to what should be the true test of agency within the meaning of this Act.

2. The execution, by the administrative agencies concerned, of the Foreign Agents Registration Act and all other laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of this Committee, the legislative purpose being to exercise continuous watchfulness of the execution of these laws, to assist the Congress in appraising the administration of such laws, and in developing such amendments or related legislation as it may deem necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the hearings may include any other matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee which it, or any subcommittee thereof, appointed to conduct these hearings may designate.

The above resolution bears the date August 2, 1962.

COMMITTEE EXHIBIT No. 1

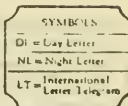


WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. F. MARSHALL, President

SF 1201 (4-60)



The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination.

1962 NOV 13 PM 8:26

LLC309 SYA262

SY SIA342 NL PD SI NEW YORK NY 13

STAFF DIRECTOR

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UNAMERICAN ACTIVITIES HOUSE OF BLDG WASHDC
WE HAVE LEARNED THAT OFFICERS OF THE MEDICAL AID TO CUBA COMMITTEE
HAVE BEEN SUBPOENAED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE HOUSE UN-AMERICAN
ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE AT A HEARING IN WASHINGTON, DC THIS WEDNESDAY
MORNING, NOVEMBER 14TH. AS A GROUP OF PRIVATE CITIZENS, WE
PROTEST THE ACTION OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

THE MEDICAL AID TO CUBA COMMITTEE IS AN ORGANIZATION
PERFORMING A HUMANITARIAN, NON-POLITICAL SERVICE BY SENDING
LIFE-SAVING MEDICINES TO SICK MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN CUBA.
ITS PROGRAM ACCORDS WITH THE STATED POLICIES OF BOTH THE PREVIOUS
REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION AND THE PRESENT DEMOCRATIC ADMINISTRATION.
IN HIS TELEVISED ADDRESS OF OCTOBER 22ND, PRESIDENT KENNEDY
DECLARED THAT THIS GOVERNMENT "WOULD NOT, AT THIS TIME, WITHHOLD

2/5Y SIA342

THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE FROM THE CUBAN PEOPLE" DESPITE DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

IN FEBRUARY, WHEN INSTITUTING ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST
CUBA, PRESIDENT KENNEDY STATED THAT MEDICINES AND FOOD WERE
EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMBARGO "ON HUMANITARIAN
GROUNDS."

WE BELIEVE THAT THE ACTION OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE HARASSES
CITIZENS WHO ARE PERFORMING A CONSTRUCTIVE FUNCTION, WHICH
MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND CUBA. THESE SUBPOENAS ARE NOT ONLY ILL-ADVISED, THEY ALSO
ENCROACH ON THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED.

WE CALL UPON THE HOUSE COMMITTEE TO DESIST. WE HOPE THAT
ALL MEN OF CONSCIENCE WILL SUPPORT US IN THIS PROTEST.

REV WILLIAM T BAIRD CHICAGO ILL REV FREDERIC E BALL CHICAGO

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SF-1201 (4-60)

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination.

3/SY 81A342

ILL HARRY BARNARD CHICAGO ILL NELSON BENGSTON NYC DANIEL M
BERMAN WASHDC MISS JESSIE BINFORD CHICAGO ILL PROF DERK BODDE
PHILADELPHIA PA DWIGHT L BOLINGER BOULDER COLO REV THEODORE
R BOWEN WASHINGTON DC DR THEODORE BRAMELD BOSTON MASS RABBI
STANLEY R BRAV CINCINNATI OHIO DR DOROTHY BREWSTER NYC REV
E T BUEHRER CHICAGO ILL RABBI ELIAS CHARRY PHILADELPHIA PA
GRENVILLE CLARK NYC NOAM CHOMSKY CAMBRIDGE MASS DR HENRY HITT
CRANE DETROIT MICH PROF EPHRAIM CROSS NYC HORACE B DAVIS RALEIGH
NC DOROTHY DAY NYC ERNEST DE MAIO CHICAGO ILL PROF WALLACE
W DOUGLAS EVANSTON ILL REV JOHN E EVANS COLUMBUS OHIO MARION
FRENEYAR SIDNEY NY LEONARD M FRIEDMAN CHICAGO ILL CARLTON B
GOODLETT MD SAN FRANCISCO CALIF DR A EUSTACE HAYDON CHICAGO
ILL REV CHARLES A HILL DETROIT MICH DR WILLIAM E HOCKING CAMBRIDGE
MASS PROF HERBERT JEHLE WASHINGTON DC FRED A KIRCHWEY NYC DR

4/SY 81A342

HELEN B LAMB NYC KENNETH O MAY NORTHFIELD MINN ARTHUR MACEWAN
CHICAGO ILL LAFAYETTE MARSH CHICAGO ILL DR CLYDE R MILLER NYC
JAY MILLER CHICAGO ILL A J MUSTE NYC WALTER MITCHELL RANCHO
SANTA FE CALIF REV CLARENCE T R NELSON DETROIT MICHIGAN DALE
PONTIUS CHICAGO ILL W CARSON RYAN CHAPEL HILL NC PROF PAUL
A SCHILPP EVANSTON ILL PROF MALCOLM SHARP CHICAGO ILL GUY E
SHIPLER ARCADIA CALIF PROF WILLIAM T STARR EVANSTON ILL ANNE
THROP CAMBRIDGE MASS REV ALVA TOMPKINS CHICAGO ILL REV ROSS
A WESTON EVANSTON ILL AUBREY WILLIAMS MONTGOMERY ALA REV DAVID
RHYS WILLIAMS ROCHESTER NY DR H H WILSON PRINCETON NJ PROF
ERNEST J WRAGE EVANSTON ILL.

The order for appointment of this subcommittee is also being included in this record as follows:

NOVEMBER 9, 1962.

To: Francis J. McNamara,
Director, Committee on Un-American Activities

Pursuant to the provisions of the law and the rules of this Committee, I hereby appoint a subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities, consisting of Honorable Morgan M. Moulder as Chairman, and Honorable Edwin E. Willis and Honorable Gordon H. Scherer, as associate members, to conduct a hearing in Washington, D.C., Wednesday, November 14, 1962, at 10:00 a.m., on subjects under investigation by the Committee and take such testimony on said day or succeeding days, as it may deem necessary.

Please make this action a matter of Committee record.

If any Member indicates his inability to serve, please notify me.

Given under my hand this 9th day of November, 1962.

(s) Francis E. Walter,
FRANCIS E. WALTER,

Chairman, Committee on Un-American Activities.

Are you ready to proceed with the first witness?

MR. NITTLE. Yes, sir. Will Melitta del Villar please come forward?

MR. MOULDER. Will you be sworn, please?

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony which you are about to give before this subcommittee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. I do.

TESTIMONY OF MELITTA DEL VILLAR, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL, BASIL R. POLLITT

MR. NITTLE. Would you state your full name and residence for the record, please?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir. My name is Emma Lopez-Nussa Carrion Amster. This is my legal name. My professional name is Melitta del Villar, so I am known, since del Villar is also my family name.

MR. SCHERER. Will you push the microphone a little closer?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Surely. Should I say it again?

MR. NITTLE. In repeating your name, will you please spell it for the benefit of the reporter?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. E-m-m-a, Emma, Lopez, L-o-p-e-z—usually I don't use the other part, which is hyphenated, because it is long and cumbersome—Nussa, N-u-s-s-a, Carrion, my mother's name, Amster, my husband, and in Anglo-Saxon, Melitta. M-e-l-i-t-t-a, small d-e-l, capital V-i-l-l-a-r, Villar, which is my professional name and is also my grandfather's title.

MR. NITTLE. Mrs. del Villar, I believe you are represented by counsel?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir.

MR. NITTLE. Would counsel please identify himself for the record?

MR. POLLITT. Yes.

MR. NITTLE. Stating his name and office address.

MR. POLLITT. Basil R. Pollitt, P-o-l-l-i-t-t, 52 Sidney Place, Brooklyn, N.Y.

MR. NITTLE. Will you state the date and place of your birth, Mrs. del Villar?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I was born in Havana, Cuba, April 10, 1918, the real birth. My papers read 1913. This was very common in Cuba in the old days, to change around to suit your convenience of school and things like that.

Mr. NITTLE. Are both your parents now alive?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir. My father is dead. My mother is alive.

Mr. NITTLE. Where does your mother now reside?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. In Havana, Cuba.

Mr. NITTLE. You have also used the name Melitta Sheyne, S-h-e-y-n-e, have you not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir, because that was my former marriage.

Mr. NITTLE. Would you relate the extent of your education, please?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I was born in Havana, as I told you, and studied in Cuba, elementary and primary school, which we have slightly different names for the training; in other words, high school, part of high school, and then in Puerto Rico, where I continued my education, and then went back to Havana where I continued the high school and normal school training, and then came to this country where I have taken numerous studies, but usually not for credit, mostly for my own interest of education, in Columbia University, and other places where I have attended, as I say, but not for credit, so therefore it is not a, you know, a formal way, and also in France I have taken courses at the Sorbonne as a guest, you know, as auditor.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you receive any degrees from universities which you attended?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, I have no degrees. I have studied music, also.

Mr. NITTLE. Where have you studied music?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Private teachers.

Mr. NITTLE. You are also trained as an entertainer? You sing and dance?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, I do not dance. I sing and recite.

Mr. NITTLE. Have you performed under the professional name of Melitta?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Melitta and Melitta del Villar, both.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you state your present residence?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No; 215 East 15th Street in Manhattan.

Mr. NITTLE. What was your residence prior to that on East 15th Street?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, it was 400 Central Park, West. In between we spent a short period out of the city, but I don't call that residence, so we had not intended to stay.

Mr. NITTLE. What was the period of your residence at 400 Central Park, West?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, about a year, a little less than a year.

Mr. NITTLE. Commencing when and ending when?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh. It started August 1961, I guess; and we left, I would say, July, I think, 1962, but I'm not exact as to all the dates. I am not absolutely sure.

Mr. SCHIERER. Do you consider yourself now a permanent resident of the United States?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I always have been.

Mr. SCHERER. You always have been?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, since I was a young woman.

Mr. SCHERER. Are you a citizen of the United States?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. And you have been here—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Since 1933.

Mr. SCHERER. And you came to the United States from Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That's right.

Mr. SCHERER. You have been back, I suppose, a number of times?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, not much because my mother always used to come to visit me, but I was once or twice.

Mr. NITTLE. What is your present occupation?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. My present occupation, actually still performing and singing, but I have been not doing much of it because of the fact that, I don't know—call it conscience, call it ethical upbringing, or sense of responsibility—when I became aware that there was a need, that people were sick and dying because they didn't have medicines, I decided to do something about it, and it has represented considerable personal loss and sacrifice, material, but, as you know, there are some things that are more important than bread.

Mr. NITTLE. I suppose you are referring to the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir.

Mr. NITTLE. You are the chairman of that committee, is that correct?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am.

Mr. NITTLE. I now direct your attention to an article marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 1, entitled "U.S. committee formed to send drugs and medicines to Cuba," which appears in the issue of the *National Guardian* for February 19, 1962, at page 5. I hand you a copy of that article.

You will note the article states that:

A NEW COMMITTEE, Medical Aid to Cuba, has been formed in New York to send needed drugs and medicines to Cuba * * *.

The article further states that the committee, headed by Melitta del Villar, has already forwarded more than \$5,000 in medical supplies.

Although the article appeared in the February 19, 1962, issue of the *National Guardian*, it is our information that the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee was formed at least 5 months prior to the appearance of this article. Would you tell us when the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee was formed?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sometime in the fall the committee, so-called—it was not really committee then, it was just myself and a couple of friends—recognized this emergency situation and this need and we got together informally to see and explore whether it was possible to send medicines and to comfort with this help. Excuse me, because I forget what the rest of the question is.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 1" appears on pp. 1854, 1855.)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 1
[National Guardian, Feb. 19, 1962]

CAMPAIGN ANSWERS 'UNOFFICIAL BOYCOTT'

U. S. committee formed to send drugs and medicines to Cuba

A NEW COMMITTEE, Medical Aid to Cuba, has been formed in New York to send needed drugs and medicines to Cuba, now under virtually a total trade boycott by the U.S. Though medicines and food were exempted from the trade ban, an "unofficial boycott" by drug manufacturers is in effect, the committee charged. This 'unofficial agreement' has affected U.S. subsidiary drug companies in Europe and Canada, the committee said. In addition, Cuba's need for medicines is greater now, since medical care through public health services has greatly expanded since the revolution and is now available to more people.

The committee pointed out that of Cuba's 6,500 doctors, only 1,121 were in public health in 1958. In 1961, the number had risen to 3,633. The number of physicians in rural sections of Oriente province has risen from 16 in 1958 to 700 and the number of hospital beds in the area, from 10 in 1958 to 925 in June, 1961.

On Feb. 11 the Ministry of Health in Havana announced a system of controls on drugs and medicines to preserve existing supplies, according to the N.Y. Times, Feb. 12. The Times said: "It (the Cuban government) said the controls were made necessary by the 'brutal imperialist blockade' imposed by the United States."

Complicating the shortage of medicines in Cuba are language differences in labeling and descriptive literature on drugs from countries other than the U.S. Medicine is being received in Cuba from the socialist countries, but the distance causes delays and the shortage of adequate storage facilities in Cuba cannot

insure a large supply on hand. Formerly overnight orders could be placed with U.S. firms.

The committee, headed by Melitta del Villar, has already forwarded more than \$5,000 in medical supplies. One needed drug is vital to post-operative treatment of cardiac cases. It costs over \$600 for 1,000 ampules at the hospital price. From 5 to 20 ampules are used per operation. Since the cost of drugs is high, the committee is in need of funds. Dona-

Lamont charges Washington with a frame-up of Cuba

DR. CORLISS LAMONT, author and philosopher, has called the Kennedy Administration campaign against Cuba "the height of hypocrisy." Speaking at a meeting of the West Side Committee for Friendly Relations with Cuba Feb. 9 in New York, Dr. Lamont said there can be frame-ups of nations as well as individuals. He proposed that Washington "cease the dishonest anti-Cuban propaganda, restore normal diplomatic and trade relations, and re-establish the right of Americans to travel to Cuba."

tions may be mailed to: Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, Suite 409, 147 W. 33 St., New York 1.

A rally to encourage Americans to help "as an expression of the good will and friendship which many United States citizens feel for the people of Cuba" will be held March 14. William Worthy, Bayard Rustin and Melitta del Villar will speak. Jeane Gordon, the committee's information director, will be chairman.

A non-political
humanitarian
effort,
unaffiliated
with
any
other
organization

MEDICAL AID TO CUBA

COMMITTEE

We invite the in-
terest and support
of all Americans
of good will

"On humanitarian grounds the President will allow some foods and medicines to be shipped to Cuba—New York TIMES, 2/4/62.

Yet . . .

"Even medicines are being held up on one technicality after another . . ."—Sidney Lens, Nov. 1, 1961 issue of FELLOWSHIP (Magazine of the Fellowship of Reconciliation).

THE MEDICAL AID TO CUBA Committee is a voluntary organization of men and women who, in the spirit of brotherhood and humanity, have assumed the task of informing their fellow-Americans about the present emergency in Cuba. It is the function of the committee to raise funds to purchase some of the urgently needed medicines which are sent to hospitals and medical facilities in Cuba . . .

WE HOPE YOU BELIEVE WITH US THAT THIS PROJECT DESERVES THE SUPPORT OF EVERY AMERICAN OF CONSCIENCE. THE SICK AND SUFFERING CANNOT WAIT.

Please send your contribution today to:

Medical Aid to Cuba Committee
Suite 409
147 West 33rd St.
New York 1, N.Y.

Make checks payable to Albert S. Baker, Treasurer

NEW YORKERS SAVE THIS DATE—WED., MARCH 14, at 8 P.M.

MEDICAL AID TO CUBA COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING

Palm Gardens, 306 W. 52nd St. (Just West of 8th Av.)

William Worthy

Bayard Rustin

Melitta del Villar

and others; Chmn.: JESSE GORDON

Entertainment

Contribution 99c

MR. NITTLE. I asked you the date when this committee was formed.

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Yes. Well, the committee was not formed until—I don't have a special, specific date because I didn't know what was the nature of this inquiry and what specifically I should try to remember, and I don't always have a very good memory for these details, but sometime in the fall, let us say around October or late October or middle October, around there, but it was not formed in an organized manner the way we were later when we already had operating facilities, you know, like an office and things like that.

MR. WILLIS. That was about October of what year?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Last year, 1961.

MR. NITTLE. Would you relate the circumstances under which you were selected as chairman of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Actually, I wish I could say there was a throng of people who elected me unanimously, but it was really more the sense that we were two or three people, and because I had invited them for this purpose I guess they decided, well, you better carry on with the leadership, you know, with the responsibility. That was all.

MR. WILLIS. Who were those two or three people?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. The people who are members of the committee?

MR. WILLIS. What are their names?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. You want to say something?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

MRS. DEL VILLAR. The thing is that I am very happy to answer all the questions that concern, absolutely relevant to this immediate work, to the work of the committee, and all the work, in fact, that we have done and all the people involved in this work is a matter of public record. Their names have appeared, you know, in leaflets, or whatever it is we use for appeal.

MR. SCHERER. I don't know who these people are. I have never heard of them, and Mr. Willis asked you to tell us who they are.

MR. WILLIS. You said two or three. That is not difficult to name.

MRS. DEL VILLAR. No, no, it isn't and I have no hesitation because in their case it is a matter of public record; the chairman, myself; treasurer, Mr. Baker; and secretary, Miss Apolloni for a very short time and also clerical worker. That is all. That was the original group.

MR. NITTLE. I don't think I was able to hear the persons you named. Yourself as chairman?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Yes; Mr. Baker, treasurer—provisional treasurer.

MR. NITTLE. Will you state the full name of Mr. Baker?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Mr. Albert Baker.

MR. NITTLE. Yes.

MRS. DEL VILLAR. And Miss, I think her name is—isn't it Rose? Rose Apolloni, A-p-o-l-l-o-n-i, I think.

MR. NITTLE. Why do you have any difficulty in recollecting the name of Rose Apolloni if, as you have stated, the original persons who formed this group were your friends?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. No, because I don't know them intimately. I know them only in this context, you see, and, besides, I am notorious for names.

MR. NITTLE. Since you knew them only in the context of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, it would not be correct, or apt, to describe them as your friends at the time the committee was formed.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, friends—acquaintances, not friends. Friends I consider something very intimate, somebody you know for many years.

Mr. NITTLE. As a matter of fact, were these persons suggested to you by other persons?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, not at all.

Mr. MOULDER. How did they happen to attend the meeting?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I invited them.

Mr. NITTLE. How long have you known Albert Baker whom you named as the treasurer of the committee?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. About 7 months, I suppose, some months, I guess.

Mr. NITTLE. Are you referring to 7 months from today?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't understand.

Mr. NITTLE. How long have you known Albert Baker—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You mean before?

Mr. NITTLE. —whom you have named as treasurer of this committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You mean before when we first got together?

Mr. NITTLE. Will you state the date when you first made his acquaintance?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know. This I can't remember absolutely.

Mr. NITTLE. Had you made his acquaintance prior to October 1961 when you stated the committee was formed?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sure. I wouldn't have invited him if I hadn't known.

Mr. NITTLE. How long before October 1961 did you know Albert Baker?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Probably several months, probably 6 months before, or 4 months. I don't know exactly. I don't keep tally of when I meet people because I didn't anticipate this kind of thing in connection with the work I do.

Mr. NITTLE. This was a very important event, a matter of conscience, as you said.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Absolutely.

Mr. NITTLE. And you do not recall the time when you met Albert Baker prior to the formation of this committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, I do not, not exactly.

Mr. NITTLE. How long did you know Rose Apolloni prior to October 1961?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The same applies to her.

Mr. SCHERER. About 6 months, you said?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Probably, probably around that, perhaps 6 months, 8 months, 5 months. I don't know.

Mr. SCHERER. How did you happen to meet Miss Apolloni?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Socially.

Mr. SCHERER. Socially?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. You had been in her company often in this 6-month period?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. You know, you go out and visit and you meet people, and if you are a model you are interested in modeling and if you are a musician you talk about music. If you are interested in medical aid, you talk about medical aid, and invariably you find some kind of response or support, you know. I don't understand too much,

in fact nothing at all about legal ups and downs and gimmicks and tricks and I am not here——

Mr. NITTLE. We are not asking about tricks or legal gimmicks. We are going back to what you said, conscience, which you said was important in your life, important enough to lead you to make a career sacrifice, I believe you stated.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Correct, correct.

Mr. NITTLE. I again direct your attention to Exhibit 1, the article appearing in the *National Guardian* of February 19, 1962. The article reports that although medicines and food were exempted from the U.S. trade ban, your committee stated that drug manufacturers in the United States——

Mr. WILLIS. I couldn't hear you, sir. I couldn't understand you. You started to say, "although something," and I missed it.

Mr. NITTLE. The article, Exhibit 1, reports that although medicines and food were exempted from the U.S. trade ban, your committee stated that drug manufacturers in the United States were maintaining, and I quote, "an unofficial boycott" of Cuba. It is stated that the Ministry of Health in Havana announced a system of controls on drugs to preserve existing supplies and then quotes a *New York Times* report of February 12 which stated:

"It (the Cuban government) said the controls were made necessary by the 'brutal imperialist blockade' imposed by the United States."

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Where do you see that? I don't see that. Where do you see that, sir?

Mr. NITTLE. I point it out to you as being contained in the first three paragraphs of that article.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, I see.

Mr. WILLIS. You haven't finished your question.

Mr. NITTLE. No, sir. The question, Mrs. del Villar, is: From what source did the *National Guardian* obtain its information for its report that your committee stated that drug manufacturers in the United States were maintaining an unofficial boycott of Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. There was an article in the *Peace* magazine in London. I think it is called *Peace*. It also appeared, I think, in the *Baltimore American*. This is, of course, what I remember. I hope I am correct. I am not absolutely sure, but I know in two periodicals at least, and maybe in another one still, a periodical stating these facts, and a reporter who at the time was in Cuba made these statements, as you see, that it is in quotes. This is not something we said or invented, or something we gather was the situation.

Mr. NITTLE. Do you mean to state that you provided this information to the representative of the *National Guardian*?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am not sure. I think they probably saw it in the newspapers, because they had seen it in the newspapers. They had seen it in the various—you know, the newspaper people read all the papers and they picked it up.

Mr. SCHERER. You said that you had seen it in the *Peace* magazine from London.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. A newspaper, a little newspaper called *Peace*, I think it is, published in London. I am not sure of the name.

Mr. SCHERER. Is that a Communist publication?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, I haven't the faintest idea. I don't think so from what I gather, from what I saw, but I have no idea, because I am not at all informed about this.

Mr. SCHERER. It occupies a somewhat similar position in England as does the *National Guardian* in this country, does it not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know. It's the first time I ever saw that periodical. I never saw it before or since.

Mr. NITTLE. The *National Guardian* article states that your committee reported this to the *National Guardian*. Is it your statement that you, basing your own information upon articles you read in other magazines or newspapers, communicated these facts to the *National Guardian*?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. The thing is that here it says "The Times said." It doesn't say I said or we said. It says "The Times said."

Mr. NITTLE. I think if you will read the item, I will point out to you the specific words.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. According to the *New York Times*, February 12. "The Times said."

Mr. NITTLE. I am not referring to that portion of the item which you have pointed out in paragraph three, but to that portion of the article which appears in paragraph one of the item. The exact language is: "Though medicines and food were exempted from the trade ban, an 'unofficial boycott' by drug manufacturers is in effect, the committee charged."—referring to the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. NITTLE. I am simply trying to determine whether you, as chairman of that committee, provided the *National Guardian* with that information.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. NITTLE. As the article indicates.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. WILLIS. Let us try to clarify it in an accurate and fair way.

Do I understand the situation to be that you provided this information and that you made this charge, but you based your charge upon what you had read in the magazine from London? Is that the situation?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is part of it, and also——

Mr. SCHERER. What is the other part?

Mr. WILLIS. What is the other part?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am coming to that. Also I don't remember exactly, in all fairness to the man, to the committee, exactly what we said. This I don't remember but approximately this is correct what you indicated very well, now. The other part of it is that, for instance, in exploring about finding out how one can get medicine, because I have never been on any committee and I have never formed any committee and I don't know these mechanics—I have been learning—I inquired from various drug manufacturers and in some instances they said they wouldn't touch Cuba with a 10-foot pole. This is literally, but it was off the record. Now, of course, I said, "Well, look. We will buy whatever it is," you know, "and pay whatever is necessary. I hope, because it is charity and nonprofit, that you will give us a reasonable discount."

Mr. WILLIS. That is the very purpose of these hearings, whether it is really charity, really nonprofit, and really humanitarian.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This is easy to discover. That is easy to find out. When you say not really, may I ask, sir, with all respect, you sort of make me upset a little bit because you are putting in question my honesty or my sincerity. I mean do you think I am using this as a coverup to do something vicious?

Mr. WILLIS. I have made no charge. We will soon find out. I will direct a few questions right now and find out in a few moments?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You are making this matter and it is very upsetting.

Mr. WILLIS. I am making no charge.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. All right. Okay.

Mr. WILLIS. I hope when the questions are asked it will come out as you say it is. It is fine with me.

Mr. MOULDER. But you are just as anxious to determine or to ascertain whether you are being used for such purposes?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. I tell you why; because I know I am not. I mean I am not a dope. I am not a child. I am not being mesmerized, and I don't have a Svengali over me. This is honest work. I sacrifice lots of time and effort. I wish more people were less guided by their own interests and more guided by the interest of others and do a little bit of this. I think this is one of the unique charitable problems in the country, where the operational expenses are minimal compared to what we try to do.

Mr. SCHERER. Nobody could disagree with that statement of yours. I am sure nobody.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I understand about it because it is something I am doing.

Mr. WILLIS. Proceed, Counsel.

Mr. NITTLE. I now hand you a copy of a large advertisement which appeared yesterday, November 13, 1962, on page 29 of the *New York Times*.

Mr. WILLIS. What is the date of that?

Mr. NITTLE. November 13, 1962, Mr. Willis.

The item is marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 2. By that advertisement it appears that your organization is soliciting funds and requesting that checks be made payable to Elizabeth Sutherland, MACC, Suite 409A, 147 West 33rd St., New York 1, N.Y. What position does Elizabeth Sutherland hold in your organization?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. If you will kindly note the bottom of the paragraph where the text ends, you will see her name as one of the sponsors of the committee.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 2" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 2
[The New York Times, Tuesday, Nov. 13, 1962]

Juanita is dying!

In a small white cot in a ward in a Cuban hospital, Juanita, 11 years old and all unknowing is waging a fight for her life. Her father, a physician on the hospital staff stands at his child's bedside. All his skill, all his love are insufficient to stave off encroaching death. Lacking the one drug that can save his beloved child, Dr. G. feels helpless and despairing.

Trained like his medical colleagues in the use of pharmaceutical products made in the United States, Dr. G. knows that the specific, life-saving drug can be obtained *only* in our country. He knows that medicines are exempt "on humanitarian grounds" from the U. S. embargo on trade with Cuba. But since there is no trade with the United States, Cuba has no way to get U. S. dollars. And without U. S. dollars, Dr. G.—and other physicians like him—cannot buy U. S. drugs. Thus, he faces the grim prospect that his child may die.

Knowing these facts would *you* let Juanita die?

You can save her life, and the lives of many like her, by providing the dollars which the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee uses exclusively to supply vital medical needs to treat the sick.

But the dire lack of drugs is not the sole problem with which the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee has reckoned since it was organized one year ago. Cuban doctors, nurses, hospitals and research centers were supplied in the past with products of U. S. manufacture. Much of this urgently needed equipment is presently out of use in Cuba due to lack of replacement parts, available *only* in this country. In the twelve months of its existence, the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee has been carrying on a major effort to raise funds with which to purchase as much of this indispensable equipment as possible.

What is the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee? It is a non-profit organization formed by a group of U. S. citizens for the purpose of carrying out a humanitarian, non-political program of sending essential drugs and medical supplies for free distribution to sick men, women and children of Cuba. This program is in accord with the stated policies of both the previous Republican Administration and the present Democratic Administration. Only recently, in his televised address to the American people on October 22nd, announcing the blockade of Cuba, President

Kennedy declared that the U. S. government "would not, at this time, withhold the necessities of life from the Cuban people" despite the differences between the two countries. Indeed, when instituting economic sanctions against Cuba last February, Mr. Kennedy stated that medicines and food were exempt from the embargo.

The Medical Aid to Cuba Committee has been making regular shipments of medicines and medical supplies to Cuba via commercial carriers under the terms of the regulations set down by the U. S. Department of Commerce and the U. S. Post Office Department.

We hope that these gifts of medicines and medical supplies have served as an expression of the abiding spirit of brotherhood which many people in our country feel for the people in other parts of the world. We hope that you will believe with us that the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee deserves the support of every American of conscience. Chairman: Melitta del Villar. Sponsors: David Dellinger, Waldo Frank, Ruth Gage-Colby, Douglas Gorsline, Freda Kirchwey, Warren Miller, James O'Connor, Bayard Rustin, Elizabeth Sutherland, William Worth.



MEDICAL AID TO CUBA
COMMITTEE

Please mail your contribution today. Make checks payable to Elizabeth Sutherland, MACC, Suite 409A, 147 West 33rd St., New York 1, N. Y. For further information Telephone LA 4-0729.

Mr. NITTLE. Miss Sutherland is more than a sponsor, is she not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, no. She is a sponsor, but has been willing to act for this particular campaign, have her name, checks made to her.

Mr. NITTLE. Is she an officer of your organization?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir.

Mr. NITTLE. Is she a member?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir, just a sponsor, as this public record shows.

Mr. SCHERER. Could we see that? We haven't seen that.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It is a beautiful ad. Glad to have you see it.

Mr. NITTLE. How long has she served your organization as sponsor?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't have exact memory. You must bear with me in memories, because it is very bad and all my family has always known this. Miss Sutherland became a sponsor probably some months ago, since the summer, before the summer. I don't know exactly, but I have, you know, always—

Mr. NITTLE. You say she became a sponsor then, approximately this past summer?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I would think so, roughly. I would have to check.

Mr. NITTLE. A matter that you must know.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I would have to check.

Mr. SCHERER. Let us get this straight. She is not a member of the organization. She is not an officer of the organization. She is a sponsor of the organization.

Yet, the ad at the bottom says, "Make checks payable to Elizabeth Sutherland, MACC, Suite 409A, 147 West 33rd St., New York 1, N.Y." Is she in charge of that office there?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir. I am.

Mr. SCHERER. You are in charge of the office?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is right.

Mr. SCHERER. Does she work at the office?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not at all. She is a sponsor and it is just like, for instance, I would have liked to have a sponsor, say Mrs. Roosevelt, may she rest in peace. This is the role.

Mr. SCHERER. The natural question that would come to your mind as it does mine—if she is not a member, not an officer, and not at the office or not in charge of the office—why are checks made payable to this woman?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, because my name is always appearing in everything and I thought it sounds awfully one-man setup, you know. It is better to have someone else.

Mr. SCHERER. Who is the secretary or treasurer of this committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The treasurer is—it is also in the record—official is Mr. Sidney Gluck.

Mr. SCHERER. And the secretary?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, we don't have a secretary at present. It used to be Miss Apolloni for a short time, but we don't have one. We have a clerical worker, but that is not a secretary of the committee.

Mr. MOULDER. Who keeps the record of the receipts and contributions made and the expenditures?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, that is done between Mr. Gluck and the medical director, myself, and the other people who constitute the membership.

Mr. WILLIS. And who is the medical director?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Dr. Louis Miller. That is also a matter of public record.

Mr. MOULDER. For example, do you now know how much money has been collected?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, roughly, I think I would have. I would have to again go and check and add up to the last minute, but I would say roughly—would you like me to tell you?

Mr. MOULDER. Your estimate of it.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I beg pardon?

Mr. MOULDER. The way you describe how your records were kept, that is, you had no secretary, that everybody kept records, I just wondered how you could accurately ascertain how much money?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, no, the books are kept very meticulously. Everything is kept very carefully because that is part of my feeling about it.

Mr. SCHERER. Since the checks are made payable to Elizabeth Sutherland, does she have an account or is this money kept in an account in the name of the committee?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The truth and nothing but the truth, so help me God, it comes into the office and it goes into the treasury of the committee.

Mr. SCHERER. She has to endorse the checks?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Of course, and she sees it, and always by me, by the treasurer, and by Miss Sutherland.

Mr. SCHERER. Can you explain to us why you have the checks made payable to Elizabeth—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sutherland. It is a beautiful name.

Mr. SCHERER. Sutherland. Why are the checks made payable to her when she is not a member of the committee, not an officer of the committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Nothing, because I don't know. It occurred to me that it was better to have still another person to be participating in the activity and give it there for a little more body, more endorsement.

Mr. SCHERER. Why did the ad not call for the checks being made payable to the committee or to the treasurer?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, I will also be very honest and candid with you, and it is as follows:

The reason for it, I would prefer it to be made to Medical Aid to Cuba, but it is very strange apparently, because even this event, that is so perfectly courteous and everything, is something that people are terrified about and I am amazed to see, with great distress, because my family is partly North American.

My uncle in fact is from Georgetown. His father was dean of the Georgetown Medical School, so you see I have very close ties and was brought up with the idea of the freedom of our country and so on.

And it astonishes me to see, to go to a meeting like we held, a public meeting to raise funds, people send anonymous, anonymous, anonymous.

I said, well, Mr. Anonymous is fabulous. Why don't people say John Smith, Mary Doe, and Peter Brown? Why don't they say it?

Mr. SCHERER. Was there any reason why the checks were not ordered or requested to be made payable to the treasurer?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No reason at all because in the past we have had checks made to the treasurer. It was just, as I said, the idea I would have liked to have had, with all respect to Elizabeth, say, some very, very prominent person like Mrs. Roosevelt or somebody like that, may she rest in peace, whom I invited to be a sponsor, as a matter of fact, and this is what I would have liked, but people are somehow timid, afraid. Can you explain that? I don't understand it.

Mr. SCHERER. Is this Miss Sutherland's right name?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. As far as to my knowledge and belief.

Mr. SCHERER. Does she have any other name?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know.

Mr. SCHERER. How long have you known Miss Sutherland?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, I have known her probably, let us see—I am trying to remember when I met her, but I would say about 7 months or something like that.

Mr. SCHERER. Seven months from this date, or 7 months prior to the date of formation?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, no; 7 months to this date, not to the hour and the minute because I do not wish to say an untruth, but this is approximately how long I have known her.

Mr. SCHERER. When approximately was this committee formed?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I told you, about the middle of October.

Mr. SCHERER. You became acquainted with Miss Sutherland subsequent to the formation and organization of this committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is correct.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you also meet her socially?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is correct, and, you see, what happens is you start a work like this—and we have done very little publicity because we don't want to spend what little money we have, comparatively speaking, for advertising, so it gets by word of mouth.

People hear about it just as you have, and everybody hears about it and they come forth and try to be helpful, those who are not so afraid. This is what puzzles me, the fear, because we talk about the freedom, and yet there is this dreadful panic.

Mr. SCHERER. You heard the statement of Mr. Willis at the beginning of this session in which he pointed out how, in the past, the Communist movement throughout the world has used medical supplies and food, not for the humanitarian purposes, which you stated it is the purpose of your committee, but to promote the Communist cause by depriving people in those countries of these medicines and foods because they did not support the current regime.

That is one of the purposes of this investigation.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. Well, I haven't any political background or knowledge.

Mr. SCHERER. I understand. We are trying to find out——

Mr. WILLIS. May I ask a question, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. MOULDER. Yes.

Mr. WILLIS. You said you are horrified at the attitude on the part of some people, whom you haven't named, at their fashion of operation, anonymously and so on, and that you were in favor of these checks being made payable to your committee.

Now, who overruled you and who hides behind this cloak of anonymity that you say you are shocked about?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Now, nobody overruled me. It is myself, you see.

Mr. WILLIS. All right. You said you were in favor of these checks being made payable, as usually they are, in an open fashion that you talked about to the committee, or to you or to an officer or to the president or the treasurer or somebody, that that was your preference, your attitude. And you are shocked at the attitude in America—apparently you are saying with a pretty scattered shot—of operating under a cloak of anonymity.

Mr. POLLITT. That is a misstatement of this lady's testimony.

Mr. WILLIS. Answer my question please. Why in this instance were you overruled, if you were overruled, and I am not quarreling with you. I am trying to read your mind, because you say something and I want to know what this is all about.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. POLLITT. Mr. Willis, I am aware of the rules of the committee.

Mr. MOULDER. You may confer with the witness.

Mr. WILLIS. You can advise her.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. MOULDER. Go ahead.

Mr. WILLIS. I am not making any charge. I am asking a question from what you have said. That is all.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I understand you and may I please respectfully submit that you have—

Mr. WILLIS. You are making a broad statement. You are not answering the question.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I understand. I am coming to answer.

Mr. WILLIS. Do you understand the question?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir.

Mr. WILLIS. Will you answer it?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I will, but first before I answer the question—

Mr. WILLIS. There you go. That is what has been going on for the last half hour.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It is my privilege to express myself in my stupid way.

Mr. WILLIS. Of course it is, but it is our privilege to develop a record.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am going to tell you that first of all what you have imputed me to say for some reason, because of semantics or something, was not correct.

Mr. WILLIS. If I put words in your mouth, I take them all back.

Did you not say that you were shocked at a habit of some people—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, this is not so.

Mr. WILLIS. —of operating under anonymous names?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. WILLIS. If they are John Brown, why don't they say they are John Brown or Joe Bloke?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. WILLIS. Why do they make these checks anonymous and all that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not exactly, no. I will restate what I said.

Mr. WILLIS. All right. And I will bet I can straighten it out.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Theoretically, I said it was ideal that people should be able to make checks to whether it is Medical Aid to Cuba, or all they want to make a check to. Ideally, this is what I would like. Also it isn't contradictory to that, or in any conflict, to choose some member who is responsible, who is a nice person, because it gives a personification.

Mr. WILLIS. Prestige?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It no longer makes abstraction. You are not making it to an entity, but rather to a person and who has a rather prestige value, as you say.

That is one thing. The other thing I said is that one of the things that has depressed me considerably and preoccupied me, since I have no experience politically, is to see that in general when people have such a meeting, contribute, maybe they do it because they are modest or shy, but somehow it struck a funny chord with me to see so many people wanted to give anonymous contribution.

Mr. WILLIS. Exactly.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. So there is no cloak, and no cloak and dagger operation. It is just an observation. That is all.

Mr. WILLIS. My next question is this, and I understand your feeling, the way you feel, that people who want to contribute to a cause should have the courage, as you put it, to make checks payable to that cause.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sure.

Mr. WILLIS. Right.

That being so, why, having that philosophy of operation, did you put the committee in the background, let it be anonymous, and choose a person to make a check to? That is what I am asking.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I beg to disagree, sir. The committee is not in the background and is far from anonymous.

Mr. WILLIS. So far as the payment of checks are concerned?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, no, but it has a huge identification symbol. It has an address and no one is told that you may not write to the Medical Aid to Cuba, but it simply facilitates and gives its prestige, identity, and personification, rather than being an abstraction.

Mr. WILLIS. I have clarified the record. That is all I wanted to know.

Mr. SCHERER. Will the gentleman yield at this point?

Mr. WILLIS. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. Let us quit playing games.

Isn't it a fact that the checks were not requested to be made payable to the treasurer because he is a member of the Communist apparatus? Isn't that the real reason?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, I have no such idea.

Mr. SCHERER. You don't know?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't even know what you are talking about.

Mr. SCHERER. You don't know that the treasurer of your organization is a member of the Communist apparatus?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir, absolutely not.

Mr. SCHERER. All right.

Mr. MOULDER. I didn't understand you to say that you had a treasurer.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, we have a treasurer.

Mr. MOULDER. What is his name?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Mr. Sidney J. Gluck.

Mr. MOULDER. Oh, yes. I am sorry.

(At this point Mr. Bruce entered the hearing room.)

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You see, sir, may I say that when I am engaged in a good work of which I know what I am doing and I am nobody's mesmerized fool——

Mr. MOULDER. Let us get to the next question.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I do not screen people.

Just like somebody is sick and they want the medicine, I don't ask, "What is your opinion" or if the house is on fire, "Before you put water in the fire, let me find out your opinion."

This is not my feeling. I am not an investigating committee and I would like this very clear.

Mr. SCHERER. I understand, but you just said that you did not know that Mr. Gluck, the treasurer of this organization, was a member of the Communist apparatus.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know anything of anybody's private life, including your own, sir. With all respect, I don't.

Mr. SCHERER. Then you were fooled?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Why would I be fooled? Look, I am called here. Would say then I am fooled because you were questioning and making me feel like a convict when I haven't done anything wrong.

Mr. SCHERER. No, you are evidently duped.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't understand this. I don't really understand it. I do not understand what you mean.

Mr. SCHERER. This comes as a surprise and a shock to you, does it not, that the treasurer of this organization is a member of the Communist Party? You said you didn't know that.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I do not question anybody who wants to help Medical Aid.

Mr. SCHERER. I understand.

The question is you said that you did not know that he is a member of the Communist apparatus.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know anything about his private life.

Mr. SCHERER. I asked you if——

Mr. MOULDER. She didn't answer that. You say you do not know anything about his private life?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. MOULDER. Do you know he is a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I do not know. I said I do not know.

Mr. SCHERER. The fact that he is a member of the Communist Party, isn't that the reason that you had checks made to this woman who is not a member of the organization, who is not an officer of the organization?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You are attributing to me a Machiavellian scheme and it never entered my head in this fashion. I explained it to Mr. Willis very simply.

Mr. MOULDER. Just answer the question.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The question is?

Mr. MOULDER. He asked you if that was the reason why you had checks made payable to Miss Sutherland instead of the treasurer.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. SCHERER. Who made the decision? Was it somebody else in this group that made the decision?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, I made the decision.

Mr. SCHERER. You made the decision?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you discuss it with anyone before you made the decision?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, generally with the committee members. I discussed these things of course, but in this matter I didn't feel that it was a matter for a big issue. Miss Sutherland was willing. It seemed very attractive and very nice and I used it. I could have used anyone else, Elizabeth or anyone else who inspires this integrity.

Mr. SCHERER. You say she inspires integrity. What is her position in the community?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. As far as integrity I would say, of my own say so, I like her as a person, she is a nice woman, and that is all. I feel that she is somebody who is nice.

Mr. SCHERER. What field is she in?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. In publishing. She is an editor.

Mr. SCHERER. For what publication?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. For Simon and Schuster. This again is public record.

Mr. SCHERER. She is an editor?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, that is right.

Mr. SCHERER. Of a publication?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Of a publishing house.

Mr. MOULDER. All right. Let us get to the next question.

Mr. NITTLE. By whom were you introduced to Elizabeth Sutherland?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. By herself. She came forth. She said she wanted to meet me. She had heard my name and she liked to meet me. It happens to me with a lot of people.

Mr. NITTLE. You had mentioned Albert Baker as being the treasurer of your organization. When did Sidney J. Gluck succeed him as treasurer?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, now you have me. I don't remember dates.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I have to beg I don't remember.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sometime before this summer, I think, in mid-winter, I suppose, if it is close enough.

Mr. NITTLE. Now, I want to return for a moment to the *New York Times* advertisement, marked del Villar Exhibit No. 2. You will note the advertisement states in part:

The Medical Aid to Cuba Committee has been making regular shipments of medicines and medical supplies to Cuba via commercial carriers under the terms of the regulations set down by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Post Office Department.

Apparently your group experienced no difficulty in purchasing supplies?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That's right.

Mr. NITTLE. If there was an unofficial boycott, as you have stated to the *National Guardian* in February 1962, when did this boycott end?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know if the boycott has ended. I know nothing about that aspect of it because that is on a different level where I have nothing to do with it.

In our own experience, I will say we have been able to buy as a committee and so this has been no problem to us and the whole operation has always been carried out in full compliance of all the regulations necessary.

Mr. NITTLE. For a moment, I would now like to return to del Villar Exhibit No. 1, the *National Guardian* article of February 19, 1962. You will note in the last paragraph an announcement is made, and I quote, "A rally to encourage Americans to help 'as an expression of the good will and friendship which many United States citizens feel for the people of Cuba' will be held March 14," at which you and other persons, including one William Worthy, who I believe is listed as a sponsor, will speak. Did you and William Worthy later speak at the rally to which reference is made?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir. I didn't speak really. I sang. Mr. Worthy spoke and I sang love songs.

Mr. NITTLE. I hand you a copy of the May 22, 1961, issue of the *National Guardian*, page 11, which is marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 3.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I feel like an awful convict.

Mr. NITTLE. I call your attention to an advertisement appearing in the left-hand column titled, "Will There be Another Invasion?"

The note indicates that a meeting on Thursday, May 25, will be held at Hunts Point Palace, Bronx, and the speakers on that subject, namely, "Will There be Another Invasion?" include, among others, yourself and William Worthy, at this affair being held under the auspices of the Bronx Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

Did you also have an occasion to appear on the same platform with William Worthy, one of your committee sponsors, in that instance?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, it is listed here.

Mr. MOULDER. Just answer.

Did you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I did appear, yes, of course.

Would you like this, sir?

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 3" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 3
[National Guardian, May 22, 1961]

WILL THERE BE ANOTHER INVASION?
Speakers: William Worthy, Julio Medina,
Melitta del Villar, John T. McManus

THURSDAY, MAY 25—8 P.M.

HUNTS POINT PALACE 163 St. &
SOUTHERN BLVD., BRONX.

Admission Free

Ausp: Bronx Fair Play for Cuba Comm.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you happen to be a member of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. POLLITT. May I have a brief consultation?

Mr. MOULDER. Yes, certainly.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. MOULDER. Now, the next question.

What is the object of asking that question about William Worthy? What is the point there?

Mr. NITTLE. Mr. Worthy is one of the sponsors of the organization, Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, and there will be some further questions concerning William Worthy as a sponsor of the organization, with respect to the registration requirements generally laid out in the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938.

I now hand you, Mrs. del Villar, a copy of an editorial marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 4, appearing as the continuation of the inside front cover of the March 1962 issue of the *Monthly Review*, a magazine described on its cover as "An Independent Socialist Magazine."

The editors of *Monthly Review* are listed as Leo Huberman and Paul M. Sweezy.

The following is an excerpt of the editorial appearing in that issue of the *Monthly Review*:

Speaking of Cuba reminds us that the Medical Aid Committee for Cuba, formation of which we announced in the January issue, will hold its public meeting on Wednesday, March 14th, at 8 p.m. at Palm Gardens, 310 West 52nd Street. Jesse Gordon will be in the chair and the speakers (on the subject of the shortage of medicines in Cuba) will be William Worthy, Bayard Rustin, and Melitta Del Villar. Contribution 99¢. Meanwhile, the Committee asks us to relay thanks to all MR readers who have made contributions.

Mr. MOULDER. Now, what is the question?

Mr. NITTLE. Did you solicit the *Monthly Review* to call attention to these facts?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We sent releases about these meetings to all the periodicals, everywhere, the city dailies and to these too. Everywhere we sent releases. When we send release out it goes to every newspaper I can think of. Some print it. Some don't. And very often, I say—

Mr. WILLIS. It is the usual thing?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Of course, you know. So the *Monthly Review* was very generous to quote it and mention it, which is a great help to our work wherever it is printed.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 4" appears on pp. 1871, 1872.

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 4
[Monthly Review, Mar. 1962]

MONTHLY REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST MAGAZINE

**ALGERIA, VIETNAM,
and PUNTA DEL ESTE**

VOL. 13

THE EDITORS

11

**THE COMING LATIN
AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

A TRAVELING OBSERVER

A LETTER FROM CUBA

Century"; and Tawney's Introduction to Wilson's "Discourse on Usury." How I enjoyed them all! Later I attended his lectures on the 19th century—the course he did with Durbin, Power, and Postan. I still have vivid memories of this giant! He influenced my thinking, as no doubt he did that of many others." As a tribute to Tawney's memory, we plan to publish in an early issue a collection of characteristic quotations from his two best known works.

Through an oversight, we neglected to announce in our last issue that MR Press would publish on February 28th an American edition of E. P. Thompson's monumental 908-page study of William Morris and his influence in Victorian England. The book is entitled *William Morris: Romantic to Revolutionary*. Its list price is \$8.50 and prepublication price \$5.00. Since most of you have not had a chance to take advantage of the prepublication offer, however, we are extending it for another month to the end of March. Since we have only a small stock of this title, those of you who want to add it to your libraries would do well to act promptly.

PLEASE. When you move and fail to notify us in advance of your change of address, the postoffice sends us a slip saying that the magazine is undeliverable at your old address. That notice costs us 10¢. Multiply that 10¢ by 10 or 15 or whatever the average number of slips received *each day*, and you get a substantial sum of money wasted in the course of a year. So please: move if you must, but *let us know*.

We are happy to be able to announce that Ralph Miliband, now teaching at Roosevelt University on leave from the London School of Economics, will be the speaker at a Monthly Review Associates meeting in New York on Monday, April 16th. Dr. Miliband's articles in MR have always evoked an enthusiastic reader response, and we are sure that many of you will welcome this opportunity to hear him in person. His subject will be "World Socialism and War." Details of time and place will be published in the April issue; meanwhile, be sure to reserve the evening.

You know how we complain about the way MR Press books don't get reviewed. Well, every once in a while we like to note when they do get reviewed, especially if the review is a fair and reasonable one. This certainly holds for the review of *Cuba: Anatomy of a Revolution* by Professor Mervyn L. Cadwallader of San Jose State College, which appeared in the January, 1962, issue of the *American Journal of Sociology*. He describes the book as "the first and only approximation to a scholarly analysis of this fast-moving social transformation just south of Florida" and expresses the opinion that it is "the best book on Cuba so far."

Speaking of Cuba reminds us that the Medical Aid Committee for Cuba, formation of which we announced in the January issue, will hold its first public meeting on Wednesday, March 14th, at 8 p.m. at Palm Gardens, 310 West 52nd Street. Jesse Gordon will be in the chair and the speakers (on the subject of the shortage of medicines in Cuba) will be William Worthy, Bayard Rustin, and Melitta Del Villar. Contribution 99¢. Meanwhile, the Committee asks us to relay thanks to all MR readers who have made contributions.

Scott Nearing announces four lectures in early April under the general title "The Socialist Century"—(1) The Cradle of Socialism, April 3; (2) Socialism in Eastern Europe, April 5; (3) Socialism in the Western Hemisphere, April 10; and (4) Fifty Years of Socialism, April 12. All lectures will be at Academy Hall, 853 Broadway (at 14th Street), at 8:30 o'clock. Admission \$1 per lecture.

Mr. NITTLE. Are you personally acquainted with Leo Huberman?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Do I answer this?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You see, I turned to my attorney, not because of any desire to fool or deceive you, or anything, but because one thing I have sort of very superficially, and I don't know it very well yet, but one thing I have seen and that is that very often a perfectly innocent thing can be turned around to mean something tremendously complicated. Now you are an expert. I am not. You asked me if I know Leo Huberman.

Mr. NITTLE. You can answer that question very simply.

Are you personally acquainted with Leo Huberman?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

You see, it is very simple on the face of it, but I don't know what you are aiming at and I have no aims or designs. I know Mr. Leo Huberman, period.

Mr. MOULDER. I think you protest too much about that. Do you say you know him?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. About anyone you would ask me I would feel this because this already transgresses into my private acquaintances and this is something I am entitled to having. I don't have to declare it, but I do say I know Mr. Huberman.

Mr. NITTLE. How long have you known Leo Huberman?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I agree with this.

The thing is, you see, I do object. I really object. I have indicated it already to this line of questioning that is not relevant to the work I am doing, that is not absolutely immediate, because this is already personal. You might ask if I went to church.

Mr. NITTLE. Let me relate the question more directly to the issue.

Did you know Leo Huberman prior to the formation of your committee in October of 1961?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I think I met him, yes, before.

Mr. NITTLE. You think you met him?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I think so.

Mr. NITTLE. Were you personally acquainted with him?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, socially I met him.

Mr. NITTLE. How long prior to October 1961?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But the gentleman says this has to do with the committee. I think this is personal. So far it has no relevance. Mr. Huberman is not a member. He is not connected with the committee.

Mr. MOULDER. How long had you known him prior to the organization of the committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, it is not a part of the necessary information.

Mr. MOULDER. Mr. Nittle, what is your point in asking about this man?

Mr. NITTLE. Mr. Huberman has been subpoenaed to appear as a witness in the course of these hearings. It seems that Leo Huberman has undertaken activities in support of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. NITTLE. And it is this subject that I am probing.

Mr. MOULDER. Well, ask her then.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Mr. Huberman has never undertaken activity in support of Medical Aid to Cuba Committee except the releasing of a release, as the *New York Times* did.

Mr. WILLIS. Has he been subpoenaed?

Mr. NITTLE. Yes, sir.

Mr. WILLIS. Is he here?

Mr. NITTLE. He is expected to be questioned tomorrow.

Mr. MOULDER. Has he attended any meetings of the committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. MOULDER. Has he ever conferred with you about the work of this committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Never, nothing to do at all with the committee.

The only connection was the release in the paper, no more connection than Mr. Sulzberger or somebody in the *Times*.

Mr. MOULDER. No other connection whatsoever?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. None at all.

Mr. MOULDER. I want to ask one question.

Where do you ship the medical supplies to Cuba? Where do you send them?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We send them to Hospital Nacional, the National Hospital in Havana.

Mr. MOULDER. Directed to a hospital?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That's right, because we feel that this is a secure place for them to go, the best organized for distribution and all that, facilities.

Mr. MOULDER. Go ahead.

Mr. NITTLE. I want to refer you again to the May 22, 1961, issue of *National Guardian*.

I direct your attention to another notice, del Villar Exhibit 4-A, appearing in the lower left-hand portion on page 11 where your name appears as guest artist under the heading, "Monthly Review Associates invites you to hear THE TRUTH ABOUT CUBA, An Eyewitness Report by LEO HUBERMAN," to be held at the Hotel New Yorker on May 22.

Mr. SCHERER. I am sorry. An eyewitness what, did you say?

Mr. NITTLE. An eyewitness report by Leo Huberman.

Mr. SCHERER. That is the man you asked the witness a few minutes ago whether she knew?

Mr. NITTLE. Yes, sir.

This affair appears to have been sponsored by the Monthly Review Associates, who are the publishers of the *Monthly Review* magazine, of which Leo Huberman is the editor. Did you entertain the audience which was there assembled to hear Leo Huberman?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You see, sir, I don't know your name. I am sorry. What is your name?

Mr. NITTLE. Mr. Nittle, N-i-t-t-l-e.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Thank you.

Mr. Nittle, I have no objection about telling anything that I do because I don't know anything criminal or dirty or embarrassing, and duped and et cetera, all the things, but I do feel this is a transgression of my private activities. This has nothing to do with Medical Aid.

You know that it is May 22, 1961; May, June, July, August, September, October, fully 6 months before.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 4-A" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 4-A
[National Guardian, May 22, 1961, p. 11]

**Monthly Review Associates
invites you to hear
THE TRUTH ABOUT CUBA
An Eyewitness Report
by**

LEO HUBERMAN

who was on the scene when the
invasion occurred

● Guest Artist: Melitta del Villar

● Chairman Carey McWilliams

Monday, May 22

8:30 p.m.

Grand Ballroom — Hotel New Yorker

34th St. & 8th Ave.

\$1 in advance

\$1.50 at the door

Send for tickets to

MONTHLY REVIEW ASSOCIATES

333 Sixth Ave., NYC 14

CH 2-8403

Mr. NITTLE. Mrs. del Villar, the committee resolution clearly sets forth that the hearings relate to propaganda activities of members and affiliates of the Communist Party of the United States. It is now exploring such propaganda activities.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But, you see, and I am concerned—

Mr. WILLIS. You were asked a very simple question. Did you put the question, Counsel?

Mr. NITTLE. Yes. I am asking whether she entertained the audience assembled to hear Leo Huberman.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I beg your pardon, because Mr. Willis was talking. What was the question?

Mr. NITTLE. Did you entertain the audience at the Hotel New Yorker assembled to hear Leo Huberman as noted in the advertisement on May 22, 1961?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Now, yes, I have no—

Mr. NITTLE. You can answer that, yes or no.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But it isn't a matter of yes or no. I am concerned with—

Mr. WILLIS. It is a matter of yes or no.

Mr. Chairman, let us not pussyfoot.

Mr. MOULDER. Yes, you answer the question and then you may explain.

Mr. WILLIS. That involves you personally.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It involves me that I am connected with Medical Aid, but that time I was not.

Mr. WILLIS. The resolution relates to your committee and any other activities that are appropriate or proper.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The committee does not engage in propaganda at all.

Mr. WILLIS. Do you refuse to answer the question?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, I do not refuse.

Mr. WILLIS. Then answer, please.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I have to make honorable objection because it is dishonorable to be asked——

Mr. MOULDER. Answer the question and then explain as you want to.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I did sing at the meeting, but I have nothing to hide. It is just that it is completely out of the question we are discussing and it has nothing to do with Medical Aid because at that time I didn't even know there was a shortage of medicine, so this is kind of making an intricate weaving that I do not understand.

Mr. MOULDER. In other words, this entertaining was prior to your forming of this organization of Medical Aid?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Absolutely, that's right, because we have no propaganda and no political activity at all. We do not engage in political activity.

* * * * *

Mr. MOULDER. Who invited you there?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Mr. Huberman.

Mr. MOULDER. How did he invite you? When did this occur?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, he had heard me sing and, as it happens to a few people, they liked it and they asked me would I sing, so I said "Sure."

* * * * *

Mr. NITTLE. Did you know the purpose for which you were to perform on that occasion at the Hotel New Yorker?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. My role as a performer is to entertain and to make people, I hope, a little more gentle, kinder, because my theme is always the theme of love in a very nice sense, personal sense.

Mr. MOULDER. Were you paid for your performance there?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I was given a contribution, yes, a payment.

Mr. MOULDER. All right.

Mr. POLLITT. Mr. Nittle, if you are going into another line of inquiry, the witness has been on the stand for an hour.

Mr. NITTLE. Would you address that request to the chairman, please?

Mr. POLLITT. I am sorry.

Mr. Chairman, the witness has been on the stand for an hour.

Mr. MOULDER. Do you want a recess?

Mr. POLLITT. It might be in order.

Mr. MOULDER. The committee will recess for 5 minutes.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Thank you very much.

¹ Asterisks here and on pp. 1960 and 1974 indicate deletions of remarks ordered by the subcommittee.

(Committee members present at time of recess: Representatives Moulder, Willis, Scherer, and Bruce.)

(Present when subcommittee reconvened: Representatives Edwin E. Willis, presiding, and Gordon H. Scherer.)

Mr. WILLIS. The subcommittee will please come to order.

Proceed Counsel.

Mr. NITTLE. Mrs. del Villar, I now direct your attention to a letter marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 5, dated March 16, 1962, on the letterhead of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, addressed to the Passport Division, U.S. Department of State, under your signature, Melitta del Villar, chairman.

The letter bears the printed matter as follows: "Sponsors in Formation: Freda Kirchwey, Editor; Warren Miller, Author; James O'Connor, Economist; William Worthy, Journalist."

Although we have been familiar with the use of letterhead sponsors in correspondence and in communications of various organizations, I do not believe that we have before heard, at least not recently, of a group designated specially as "sponsors in formation."

It would seem pertinent therefore to inquire of you what those persons did in forming the organization, Medical Aid to Cuba Committee. Would you tell us about that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, "in formation" is my perhaps own unorthodox manner of indicating that we are hoping to have more sponsors and that this is a list in the process of forming itself. That is what it means, because I am not, you know, I don't have previous—

Mr. WILLIS. I think that explains it.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Thank you.

Mr. NITTLE. Did anyone make any suggestion to you of the use of this type of letterhead indicating names of sponsors?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, no. That is a simple matter.

Mr. NITTLE. The Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, although it expressly exempts certain persons from the requirements of registration, would generally require that no person shall act as an agent of a foreign principal unless he has filed with the Attorney General a registration statement, which would include, among other matters, the status of the registrant and, if a combination of individuals, the name, residence, and nationality of each director and officer and of each person performing the functions of a director or officer, together with a statement of the registrant's ownership and control.

Have these "sponsors in formation" exercised any control over the organization, Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, as to its powers or purpose, or with respect to its future activities?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. None whatsoever.

Mr. NITTLE. To establish the fact for the record, I understand that the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, you, and its officers have not been registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938. Am I correct?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You are absolutely correct. May I add a little bit? That inasmuch as we have tried, as you will know, to comply with every legal requirement, we asked our counsel if this was required and our counsel advised us that no, it was not required for our particular work.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 5" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 5

MEDICAL AID TO CUBA

COMMITTEE

147 WEST 33RD STREET (PENN ARCADE) NEW YORK 1, NEW YORK
(Room #409)

TELEPHONE: LACKAWANNA 4-0729



Sponsors in Formation:

FREDA KIRCHWEY
Editor

WARREN MILLER
Author

JAMES O'CONNOR
Economist

WILLIAM WORTHY
Journalist

March 16, 1962

Passport Division
U. S. Department of State
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

In the five months of operations of our Committee rendering medical assistance to various hospitals in Cuba, particularly Hospital Nacional in Havana, we have encountered certain technical problems involving coordination, procurement of supplies, forwarding, etc. Inasmuch as the Committee is presently vastly expanding its program of assistance it becomes necessary for the Medical Director of our Committee, Dr. Louis Miller, to make an on-the-spot survey interviewing people in various institutions with whom we have only been able to communicate through mail correspondence.

Dr. Miller will plan to spend from ten to fifteen days in Cuba and make his residence at the Hotel Riviera in Havana. He will naturally not concern himself with any matters outside the scope of our medical aid program.

Very truly yours,

MEDICAL AID TO CUBA COMMITTEE

Melitta del Villar
Chairman

MLV/ra

Mr. NITTLE. We are, of course, aware that under existing law, persons, although agents of foreign principals, engaging, or agreeing to engage in, the solicitation or collection of funds and contributions within the United States to be used *only* for medical aid and assistance are exempted from the registration requirements of the act.

Have you corresponded with the Department of Justice on this subject?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It was left to the discretion of our counsel. Since we went by his advice, I didn't have to question beyond his advice.

May I say also that since we were not organized—I did not plan this—it has not been and it is now not and it does not intend to be in the future an agency of propaganda of any sort. Also on this basis we asked our counsel, especially of the medicine.

Mr. NITTLE. Would you tell us how many branches of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee have been organized within the United States to date?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, we don't really have branches because it would imply a very complicated set of organizations for which we are not equipped and for which I have no experience.

What has happened actually, something very commendable that should make you all proud, and this is what Spallanzani called a spontaneous generation. It has been by spontaneous role, that people elsewhere—we don't have a monopoly on humanitarianism, so other people have felt the same urge to do something decent and good and they have formed to help Medical Aid to Cuba Committee.

Mr. NITTLE. It has been the experience of this committee, based upon testimony received in many hearings, that Communist organizations particularly seem to have a "spontaneous" generation.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That may be.

Mr. NITTLE. What was your answer?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That may be, but that has nothing to do with me or with our organization.

Mr. NITTLE. You are aware, are you not, that one Harriett Buhai, attorney in Los Angeles, Calif., participated in the organization of a Los Angeles chapter of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is correct, but I have never met Mrs. Buhai or Miss Buhai. I have never met her. I don't know her at all except from knowing there is this activity collecting medicines.

Mr. NITTLE. I direct your attention to an article, marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 6, appearing in the *Daily People's World* of October 26, 1957, the Communist Party's west coast publication. At page 14 is an account of Miss Buhai's application for admittance to the California bar.

The article is titled, "Ex-Communist to be lawyer? She's 1 vote shy."

The article states that Miss Buhai had informed the State Bar Examiners during a hearing in 1955—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. She had what?

Mr. NITTLE. Informed the State Bar Examiners during a hearing in 1955 that she had 11 years before been a member of the Communist Party, but had resigned.

Now, I state for the record, Mrs. del Villar, that the committee has no information at this time that Miss Buhai has been a member of

the Communist Party since the time indicated by her that she resigned from the party.

Do you have any information on that subject?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. All I can say is truth and nothing but the truth I have never seen this paper before. I never knew it existed. I never met Miss Buhai. I never knew she existed until I recently learned that she was connected with this helping organization, and I think it speaks well for Miss Buhai that she is willing to help with medicines. What her activities are is no business of mine.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 6" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 6

[Daily People's World, Oct. 26, 1957]

Ex-Communist to be lawyer? She's 1 vote shy

LOS ANGELES — Civil rights supporters focused attention this week on a unique situation in the State Supreme Court, which was hung up — 3 to 3—on whether Harriet Buhai, Los Angeles law graduate, should be immediately admitted to the California Bar.

Former student at Southwestern University, Miss Buhai stated before the State Bar Examiners during a hearing in 1955 that she had—11 years before—been a member of the Communist party, but had resigned.

The Bar Examiners then recommended against her admittance to the practice of law in California, but recently, in light of the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Koenigsberg case, reversed themselves.

WOULDN'T ANSWER

Raphael Koenigsberg of Los Angeles had been barred by the Examiners on grounds he had refused to answer questions about asserted Commu-

nist party affiliations. The Supreme Court said his failure to answer did not show "poor moral character," as the Bar Examiners contended.

When the new recommendation to admit Miss Buhai came before the State Supreme Court last weekend, three justices voted for her admission.

Three others did not vote against admission, but asked to hold up proceedings until the full record of her case could be obtained for study and review.

JUDGE ABSENT

One justice, Homer Spence, was absent. The court decided to hold its decision in abeyance until Spence could cast his vote.

Even if Spence voted "No," it was pointed out, it would not necessarily mean Miss Buhai would be denied admittance—it would mean that a final vote would be taken when her full record was before the court.

Mr. NITTLE. It is our information, that Helen Travis is the secretary of the Los Angeles branch which was organized by Miss Buhai. Are you personally acquainted with Helen Travis?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Never met the lady.

Mr. NITTLE. Do you know the secretary of the Los Angeles branch?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir. Personally I have never met any of the people in that group.

Mr. NITTLE. Mr. Chairman, to refresh the recollection of the committee, Helen Travis has been identified as a member of the Communist Party in hearings before this committee. Mrs. Travis appeared before this committee on August 30, 1950.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Really?

Mr. NITTLE. She had formerly been employed by the *Daily Worker* writing under the name of Maxine Levi. A committee report of 1950 dealing with the assassination on August 20, 1940, of Leon Trotsky, the political rival of Joseph Stalin, who was murdered in his home in Mexico City, disclosed that Helen Travis, under the name of Helen Levi Simon, transferred \$3,700 to one D. Enrique de Los Rios, a "money drop" in Mexico City to finance the release of the Trotsky murderer, identified as Jacques Mornard Vandendreschd, who had used the fictitious name of Frank Jacson.

Do you have any information relating to Mrs. Travis' Communist Party membership?

(At this point Mr. Moulder entered the hearing room.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I told you never met the lady. I don't know anything about it.

Mr. SCHERER. Pardon me just a minute. She said she didn't meet the lady. Did you know that she was the secretary of the Los Angeles chapter of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, because when she writes into the committee she signs secretary, so from this I know.

Mr. SCHERER. That is the extent?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. NITTLE. Were you informed by any other person with respect to Mrs. Travis' Communist Party membership?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Absolutely not.

Mr. NITTLE. Now, Simon M. Lazarus is the treasurer of the Los Angeles branch of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, is he not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. They said that he was the treasurer. I don't know if he still is because I remember one order or announcement or something in which they say he is no longer treasurer, but I really don't know.

Mr. NITTLE. Do you know S. M. Lazarus?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I said before and I say again I have never met any of the members composing this group. I never heard of them before.

Mr. NITTLE. You never heard the name of Simon Lazarus before the time I stated it to you here?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I heard his name in connection with the Los Angeles Medical Aid to Cuba Committee.

Mr. NITTLE. Mrs. del Villar, I hand you a copy of a telegram marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 7, dated June 5, 1962, addressed to S. M. Lazarus, 316 Conway, Los Angeles, under your signature as chairman of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, in which you express to Mr. Lazarus your salutations, and appreciation for "the great work you are carrying forward in the cause of peace."

Do you recall sending this message to S. M. Lazarus?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, indeed I do. They were having a public meeting and I was—

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 7" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 7

TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY TELEPHONE

S M LAZARUS

316 CONWAY

THE BIRTH AND CONTINUING GROWTH OF THE LOS ANGELES
COMMITTEE FOR MEDICAL AIDE TO CUBA ~~NOURISHES~~ ^{NOURISHES} THE HOPES
OF ALL AMERICANS OF GOOD WILL THAT BROTHERHOOD WILL
PREVAIL - THAT LOVE WILL BECOME THE COMMON VEHICLE
OF COMMUNICATIONS AMONG ALL PEOPLES WE SALUTE YOU AND
CLASP YOUR HAND IN FRIENDSHIP AND IN APPRECIATION OF
THE GREAT WORK YOU ARE CARRYING FORWARD IN THE CAUSE
OF RED PEACE

BOOKED
JUN 11 1962

DATE 49 JUNE 5 732P EDT
CHARACTER 60 NL PD 3 EXTRA
LAC4 0729
DEST LOSA

SIGNATURE
M DEL VILLAR
CHAIRMAN
MEDICAL AIDE TO CUBA
COMMITTEE, NEW YORK

MEDICAL AIDE TO CUBA
COMMITTEE

M DEL VILLAR R

Mr. NITTLE. Mr. Chairman, Simon M. Lazarus is the financier of a motion picture produced by the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, a union which has recently been found by the Subversive Activities Control Board to be Communist infiltrated.

The movie was titled "Salt of the Earth." Mr. Lazarus appeared before this committee on March 26, 1953, and invoked the fifth amendment with regard to his participation in the making of this movie and with respect to his membership in the Communist Party.

Have you received any knowledge respecting these activities of Mr. Lazarus?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Before I say that, I think it is relevant and very much to the point that I read the full text of my message, because I don't want anything misconstrued in a very skillful manner.

Mr. MOULDER. Just read it.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I say the following:

The birth and continuing growth of the Los Angeles Committee for Medical Aide [sic] to Cuba nourishes the hopes of all Americans of good will that brotherhood will prevail—that love will become the common vehicle of good communications among [sic] all peoples. We salute you and clasp your hand in friendship and in appreciation of the great work you are carrying forward in the cause of peace.

Mr. SCHERER. That was the telegram——

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I sent, and I subscribe to this.

Mr. SCHERER. To Mr. Lazarus?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. The outstanding question—do you know about these matters?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you know about Mr. Lazarus?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not at all. I heard his name and I heard he was a rich millionaire. This was my only kind of impression.

Mr. SCHERER. You had no knowledge that the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union was found by the Subversive Activities Control Board to be a Communist-infiltrated union?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. I have an abysmally ignorant political background. I am sorry.

Mr. SCHERER. Let me ask—I have the floor I presume, Mr. Chairman—the headquarters, I believe, of your committee is Suite 409, 147 West 33d St.?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Correct.

Mr. SCHERER. And the telephone number is Lackawanna 4-0728?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. 0729 and 0728.

Mr. SCHERER. I have before me del Villar Exhibit No. 8, which is a press release dated November 14, a.m., "Charge House body seeks to undermine humane work of Medical Aid to Cuba Committee." The release is from L. J. Amster, Suite 409, 147 West 33d St., New York 1, N.Y., Phone: Lackawanna 4-0728. Is that Amster related to you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. He is my husband.

Mr. SCHERER. Your husband?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. Is he the same L. J. Amster who has written articles for the *Daily Worker* and *New Masses*? Is that the same man?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. In reference to my husband I absolutely claim my privilege.

Mr. SCHERER. We are not asking anything——

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Under the constitutional privilege of not testifying against my family, that or that means myself.

Mr. SCHERER. Since he issued this release let me ask, is he connected with your committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir; he is not connected with the committee. He has knowledge in this technical business of handling the mechanics of it, and since I had to come here he came forth and helped me to do it. Otherwise, I would be doing it. So it is really your doing, not mine.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 8," appears on pp. 1884-1886.)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 8

From: L. J. Amster
Suite 409
147 West 33rd St.
New York 1, N. Y.

Phone: LACKawanna 4-0728

1962
FOR RELEASE WED. NOV. 14TH, A.M., PLEASE

CHARGE HOUSE BODY SEEKS TO UNDERMINE
HUMANE WORK OF MEDICAL AID TO CUBA COMMITTEE

A group of leading figures in civic, religious and educational affairs charged the House Committee on UnAmerican Activities, in issuing subpoenas to officers of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, is harassing people who are doing "a humanitarian service by sending life-saving medicines to the sick men, women and children of Cuba."

Speaking as private citizens, the signers of the statement declared that the action of the House Committee is aimed at halting "a constructive function which might contribute to improved relations between the United States and Cuba."

Among those who signed the protest against the House Committee action against the medical aid group are: Rev. William T. Baird, Chicago, Ill.; Nelson Bengston, investment banker; Prof. Derk Bodde, University of Pennsylvania; Rabbi Stanley R. Brav, Cincinnati, O.; Dr. Dorothy Brewster, Professor Emeritus, Columbia University; Grenville Clark, Attorney; Dr. Henry Hitt Crane, Methodist minister, Detroit; Dorothy Day, Editor, The Catholic Worker; Carlton B. Goodlett, M.D., Editor San Francisco Sun-Reporter; Dr. William E. Hocking, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, Harvard University; Freda Kirchwey, former publisher of The Nation; Dr. Helen B. Lamb, New York; Rev. A. J. Muste, Chairman, Committee for Non-Violent Action; Guy E. Shieler, Editor, The Churchman; and Dr. H. H. Wilson, Princeton University.

The statement follows:

We have learned that officers of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee have been subpoenaed to appear before the House UnAmerican Activities Committee at a hearing in Washington, D. C., this Wednesday morning, November 14th. As a group of private citizens, we protest the action of the House Committee.

The Medical Aid to Cuba Committee is an organization performing a humanitarian, non-political service by sending life-saving medicines to sick men, women and children in Cuba. Its program accords with the stated policies of both the previous Republican Administration and the present Democratic Administration. In his televised address of October 22nd, President Kennedy declared that this government "would not, at this time, withhold the necessities of life from the Cuban people" despite differences between the two governments.

In February, when instituting economic sanctions against Cuba, President Kennedy stated that medicines and food were exempt from the provisions of the embargo "on humanitarian grounds."

We believe that the action of the House Committee harasses citizens who are performing a constructive function, which might contribute to improved relations between the United States and Cuba. These subpoenas are not only ill-advised; they also encroach on the rights of the individuals concerned.

We call upon the House Committee to desist. We hope that all men of conscience will support us in this protest.

Additional endorsements received up to 1:30 p.m. November 13, 1962

Anne Thorp, Cambridge, Mass.

David Rhys Williams, Minister Emeritus, Unitarian Church of Rochester

Rev. Charles A. Hill, Hartford Avenue Baptist Church, Detroit

Prof. Theodore Brameld, Professor of Sociology, Boston School of Education,
Boston U.

Rev. Theodore R. Bowen, Washington, D. C.

Noam Chomsky, M.I.T.

Horace B. Davis, Raleigh, N. C.

Daniel M. Berman, Washington, D. C.

Marion Frenyear, Sidney, N. Y.

Dr. Clyde R. Miller

Rabbi Elias Charry, Philadelphia

Dwight L. Bolinger, Boulder, Colorado

Mr. SCHERER. Did any person in the Fair Play for Cuba Committee ever speak to you about the need for medical aid in Cuba prior to the formation of this committee by you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you know, at the time you had this ad placed in the *New York Times*, which appeared in yesterday's issue, that Elizabeth Sutherland was a prime mover in the Fair Play for Cuba Committee? Did you know that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. You didn't know that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you know that she attended the Cuban Writers and Artists Congress in Havana, Cuba just less than a year ago? Did you know that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am not sure if I knew it. I may have heard it. Somebody may have mentioned it to me, but I never discussed it with her. I am not positive, no.

Mr. SCHERER. That is all I have.

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed, Mr. Nittle.

Mr. NITTLE. It is not entirely clear from that telegram to S. M. Lazarus—so it seems to me—but is the cause of "peace" to which you referred in the telegram one of the purposes and objectives for which the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee and its Los Angeles branch were formed?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I would like to make a correction. There is no Los Angeles branch. We have no connection with its organization or with Los Angeles. They are a separate unit and they want to help. That's all. That is number one.

Number two, because peace is not the immediate objective of our work; but it stands to reason and obvious that if you do something kind it is going to improve the attitudes of people. It is going to make it more peaceful, because I am nicer if you treat me nicely than if you slap me. That's only logical.

Mr. NITTLE. You mean to say you are advancing the thought that the American people should be friendly to the Government of Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Never to the government, nothing to do with government, because I would be political. We have no concern with intergovernmental relationships. All we say is that sick John is here, and sick Juanita is here, and it is my duty as a citizen to see that John doesn't die, or Juanita, or Jack.

Mr. NITTLE. Well, the government is composed of people and don't you speak of brotherhood of the people of Cuba in the advertisement in the *New York Times*?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am talking about 6½ million people, 7 million people, whatever the number is.

Mr. NITTLE. Let me proceed to another question.

Are you aware of the branch of Medical Aid to Cuba Committee which has been established in Detroit, Mich.?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Would you be kind enough, sir, to not to use the word, "branch," because that is incorrect in terms of our organization.

It is not a branch. It is a separate setup. There is no group in Detroit, no.

Mr. MOULDER. May I ask, do they contribute to your organization?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. They send sometimes contribution that they raise of their own free will and in their own way.

Mr. MOULDER. I understand.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We do not interfere with their ways.

Mr. NITTLE. Do you know whether the people who are active in your organization have also been active in organizing these groups to which I have referred in Los Angeles and Detroit?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not to my knowledge and belief, I don't know this.

Mr. NITTLE. You do not know?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. They use the same name, though, in those cities, do they not, Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sure. That's all right. We have no objection to that.

Mr. SCHERER. You have had correspondence with the Los Angeles branch?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, indeed.

I congratulated them and I said, "Please go ahead, by all means. I think it is wonderful. If there is something we can help," that sort of thing.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you want us to call it a group in Los Angeles that uses the same name as you do and is associated in the same type of work?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Simultaneous, that's right, a parallel group, friendly group, but not a branch.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. NITTLE. You have no control over the collection or disbursal of funds by these other groups?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Absolutely none.

That is why I don't want it to be a branch.

Mr. NITTLE. And if the funds collected were applied for purposes, other than the ostensible and declared purpose of the organization, you would have no knowledge of that nor would you be able to control it, would you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. That's why we didn't want to make national organization, because then we would have to be responsible.

Mr. NITTLE. So that this committee of Congress may judge the extent of the collections by this organization and contributions for these purposes, would you tell us roughly how much money your organization has collected since its inception in October 1961 to date?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, I could tell you up to about May it was about \$20,000—\$20,000, and since May, June, July, August, September, October, 5 months, it's very difficult for me to say because again I didn't check on these figures.

Mr. NITTLE. I understand you keep the books?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I take care of it, but I don't remember all the things. I work 16 hours a day.

Mr. NITTLE. I have only asked you for the approximate figure.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I wanted to be very clear that I am not saying absolutely specifically because I don't want that you should say I was lying. Is that very clear? Because I am not lying.

It was \$20,000 odd by May and possibly \$25,000, \$30,000. I am not positive.

Mr. NITTLE. Why do you say possibly and why can you not be more exact since May?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Because I didn't check the record and I have a million other things in my head.

Mr. NITTLE. Is it because the records are under the control of Sidney J. Gluck?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. What do you mean? He gives the cloak and he hides it in overcoat? No. I have the records and I could tell you if I had remembered to look it up. I just didn't think of it.

Mr. SCHERER. Have the contributions increased since May?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I would say that they were about the same. They have continued to be regular and in my opinion piddling, because \$20,000, \$30,000, \$50,000 is pathetic.

Mr. SCHERER. This is a little over a quarter of a page ad in the *New York Times*. How much does that cost?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. \$2,500.

Mr. SCHERER. This ad costs \$2,500?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is correct, very expensive, but that's the only way, in advertising and promotion, that you can raise funds, you know. I mean that's one of the best ways.

Mr. SCHERER. Did your group or your committee in New York ever receive any money from the groups in Los Angeles, Detroit, or some other city? Did you ever receive any money?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, we have. They have sent contributions.

Mr. SCHERER. They have sent contributions?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Surely.

Mr. WILLIS. Could you estimate—we are not going to hold you to a particular accuracy—how many such groups there are?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. I can tell you accurately as far as I know, to my knowledge. It is the Los Angeles group, and the group formed in Chicago, which hasn't really gotten off the ground very much, sort of beginning, you know. That's about all.

Mr. SCHERER. Who are the officers of the group in Chicago?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't remember their names.

Mr. SCHERER. Would your records in your office in New York City show who the—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I have a couple of letters. I have a few letters.

Mr. SCHERER. And that would show?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That would show, yes.

Mr. SCHERER. Who the people are.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am trying to remember. There is a doctor. It is public record with them. They have made an announcement, but I don't remember the name; no, in all truth. I'm not sure.

Mr. SCHERER. You could furnish the committee with the names of the individuals who are heading up the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee in Chicago?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir. You could correspond directly with them, which would be even better, because why should I be intermediary? That is not directly with our organization. You see?

Mr. SCHERER. We have a right to ask you that question, and since you say that you don't have the information here, but you do have it in the office. Rather than ask you to come back, I was suggesting that you furnish the staff with the names of the individuals who are heading this committee in Chicago.

Now, if our staff has those names, of course, we would not bother you. It may not have. I do not know.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Very well.

Mr. SCHERER. We want to know who these people are and their backgrounds.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Right.

Mr. SCHERER. We may have a "Gluck" in one of those committees.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I object to that, sir, because I think it has a kind of tone that I don't think is nice or dignified.

Mr. SCHERER. I meant it.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. With all respect.

Mr. SCHERER. I meant it not to have a very nice or dignified tone.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. In my state or knowledge of Mr. Gluck he has been nothing but very kind and gentle, and he has never subverted me, never indoctrinated me. He has never mesmerized me.

He has never done anything that I would consider objectionable. He has been nothing but decent, kind, and helpful. And I have a sense of loyalty as I would have towards you if you were nice to me.

Mr. SCHERER. I understand.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Please.

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed Counsel.

Mr. NITTLE. Of course, Dr. Louis Miller is known to you as the medical director of your committee, is he not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes indeed.

Mr. NITTLE. How long have you known Dr. Louis Miller?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, I knew him shortly before the committee was organized.

Mr. NITTLE. How shortly before the committee was organized in October 1961 did you know Dr. Louis Miller?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Perhaps a week, or a few days, or something, not very long, no.

Mr. NITTLE. Was it Dr. Louis Miller who suggested to you your participation in an organization to be known as the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The thing is Dr. Miller—did you say that he instructed me to form this committee? Not at all. I invited him. He didn't even know my idea inside my head.

Mr. NITTLE. By whom were you introduced to him a week before your committee was formed?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. By hearsay because it is important—I mean my whole attitude about the committee, let me say, has been serious.

Mr. NITTLE. Will you please answer the question, Mrs. del Villar? We will be fair with you but we must—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I meant to say—

Mr. NITTLE. Keep to the point.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Why did I want medical director? Because we are dealing with medicines. I am not a doctor.

Mr. NITTLE. I did not ask you that.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I know, but that's why I looked around to see where I could find a doctor who could help us, not in the technical part.

Mr. MOULDER. He asked you who introduced you to him.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am trying to remember. I don't think anyone introduced him. I heard about him.

Mr. NITTE. From whom?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No one in particular that I can think of. I am trying to think very hard. Let me see now. No, I don't have anyone in particular who introduced me.

Mr. SCHERER. At the time that you asked—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Called him up. I heard about him. I called him up and said, "I am so and so. You don't know me from Adam. Could I see you?" and he said okay.

Mr. SCHERER. At the time you called him up and asked him to be medical director, did you know anything about Dr. Miller's background and activities?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. But I can tell you this.

Mr. SCHERER. Have you learned anything since about Dr. Miller?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. I can tell you what I know.

Mr. SCHERER. Just answer my question. At the time you asked him did you know anything about his background and activities?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. What I had understood was that he was a very kind person and very good doctor and very nice man.

Mr. SCHERER. That is all you knew about him?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is all. I went to see him and then he turned out to be interested and willing, not to be medical director, but to help me.

Mr. SCHERER. And who suggested that you get Dr. Miller?

Mr. MOULDER. She said she didn't remember.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't remember because in this area—

Mr. SCHERER. You do not remember?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. I heard—

Mr. SCHERER. Someone had to suggest him.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I heard the name, but I don't remember whether it was one person, I heard it in a group, or how it came about. I don't remember.

Mr. SCHERER. Since Dr. Miller has been associated with you in this work as medical director have you had occasion to learn anything about Dr. Miller's background and activity over the years?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Only to the extent that he was also helping in the medical aid to Spain.

Mr. SCHERER. Is that all you know about him?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. He has been in a couple of relief organizations, but I don't know the details or the dates.

Mr. SCHERER. You learned that but nothing else?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That he is a Communist conspirator, I never heard.

Mr. SCHERER. I didn't say that. What made you say that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Indication every time.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, he has had some—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This I never heard, no. No, I never heard this.

Mr. SCHERER. —unusual activity?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. All I have seen is that he works like a dog in his practice. He is elderly man and he is still willing to come and help us in a very tiresome work and tedious work and strenuous work. That's all I know about Dr. Miller.

Mr. MOULDER. You say medical aid to Spain. In what year was that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know. I came to confess now that at that time, I will tell you, I was unaware of what was going on. I paid no attention.

Mr. MOULDER. All right. Let us go ahead, Mr. Nittle.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Are you still not persuaded of the cleanliness and dignity of our work? I mean do you still think that I am a coverup for some sinister operation?

Mr. MOULDER. We make no accusations whatsoever.

Do you have any other questions, Mr. Nittle?

Mr. NITTLE. Yes; I was going to ask a question with respect to Dr. Louis Miller's activities on behalf of the Spanish Communists.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Spanish Communists?

Mr. NITTLE. I offer for the record, Mr. Chairman, a copy of the Communist *Daily Worker*, Monday, January 11, 1937, and direct your attention to page 3 thereof.

Mr. SCHERER. Mr. Chairman, this witness has said that she knows nothing of his activities other than she related. Somebody whom she can't remember told her to get in touch with Miller. She got in touch with Miller and he became the medical director of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, but she has not learned anything about his past activities other than that to which she has testified.

I realize that we are unable to find Miller to subpoena him, but I think we should continue to try to locate Dr. Miller and then question him concerning his activities in connection with the Communist Party.

Mr. WILLIS. Right.

Mr. SCHERER. This witness has already said that she didn't know anything about him.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. May I say this, sir, that in connection with Dr. Miller and our present work, if you worried about what he might be doing by way of perverting us, I can tell you on the oath that Dr. Miller has never, in my presence or in the presence of our activity, said anything that in any way, or done anything in any way, that would undermine the principles we stand for or the safety of our country or anything that you could find fault with. But this is what concerns me, what Dr. Miller is as I know him of today. In other words, he is not a serpent trying to poison us. He is doing decent work that does you honor.

Mr. SCHERER. But don't you think we have a right to know who Dr. Miller is?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is up to you. That is something else.

Mr. SCHERER. That is all we are trying to do.

Mr. MOULDER. You referred to a document a moment ago, Counsel?

Mr. NITTLE. Yes.

An item that appears at page 3 of the Communist *Daily Worker* of Monday, January 11, 1937, which describes Dr. Louis Miller as the executive committee chairman of the Medical Bureau of the Communist-front organization, American Friends of Spanish Democracy.

Mr. SCHERER. That is just what I said, Mr. Chairman. If you want to put this in the record I think we have a right to put it in the record at this point, but on the basis of this woman's testimony we must assume at least that she is telling the truth, that she knew nothing about this man's background, she knew nothing about Gluck or nothing about the background of these people in California. We must assume that she is telling the truth.

Mr. MOULDER. All right. Now, the document referred to by counsel will be admitted into the record as well as other documents referred to by counsel at the appropriate place as the staff may deem proper.

Mr. NITTLE. Mr. Chairman, may that order you have just made relate not only to the exhibits introduced in the interrogation of this witness but in the entire course of the hearings?

Mr. MOULDER. Yes, that will be the general order.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 9" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 9

[Daily Worker, New York, Monday, Jan. 11, 1937, p. 3]

Medical Unit Ready To Sail for Spain

To Give Farewell Party to 15 Nurses, Doctors and Ambulance Drivers at Manhattan Opera House Thursday—Plan Second Expedition

American believers in democracy, outraged by the latest "big push" engineered against Madrid by General Franco and his foreign fascist allies, are answering the challenge by sending to Madrid this country's first medical relief expedition. Announcement of the assemblage of equipment, supplies and personnel for America's first surgical unit and ambulance corps in Spain has been made by the Medical Bureau, American Friends of Spanish Democracy.

Responding to the Medical Bureau's appeal to America to "stem the blood of Spanish democracy," more than \$20,000 in cash has been sent during the last week to the Medical Bureau's offices at 20 Vesey Street. In addition, about \$10,000 worth of supplies and equipment have poured into the bureau's warehouse, which it maintains with the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy at 227 West 17th Street.

SHIPPED ON PARIS

The individual contributions range in sums from 20 cts. sent in by a seven-year-old girl who saved her weekly movie money, to \$1,500 given by a prominent manufacturer. Chapters of the Medical Bureau, all over the country have sent in substantial sums, and other chapters and individuals have promised to send funds.

All funds and supplies received by Thursday will be used for the first expedition, which will be shipped aboard the French Liner "Paris," which sails Saturday noon. A farewell party to a complement of fifteen surgeons, physicians, nurses, technicians and ambulance drivers, who will be part of America's medical relief expedition to Spain, will be held Thursday evening at the Manhattan Opera Ballroom, 331 West 34th Street.

Colonel Frank T. Woodbury, United States Army Medical Corps, retired, will be chairman at Thursday's bon voyage affair. Speakers will include Congressman John T. Bernard of Minnesota, who cast the sole negative ballot against 404 votes in the House of Representatives last week when the Administration's embargo resolution against Spain was voted; and Dr. Henry E. Sigerist, director, Institute of Medical History, Johns Hopkins University. Associate Chairmen of the farewell function include Professor Walter B. Cannon, famous physiologist, of Harvard University, a number of nationally known leaders

in medicine and the allied professions; trade union leaders, and other noted friends of Spanish democracy.

START SECOND DRIVE

"At the farewell meeting, we shall not only wish Godspeed to our personnel," said Dr. Louis Miller, chairman of the Medical Bureau's executive committee, "but we shall also start our campaign for a second and much larger medical relief expedition to be sent in the near future."

According to Saul Carson, executive director of the Medical Bureau, the first shipment, aboard the "Paris" on Saturday, will include complete equipment, from beds and bedding to surgical, medical and wardroom supplies, for a fifty-bed surgical hospital which will be set up in Madrid in accordance with arrangements between the Medical Bureau and the Spanish Government Red Cross.

The consignment will include several tons of crates containing operating room equipment, surgical, medical and diagnostic apparatus; medicines, antiseptics and anesthetics; 10,000 tubes of anti-toxins and vaccines against gangrene, tetanus and diphtheria; seventy-five beds with sufficient bedding for twenty-five hospital personnel and fifty patients; and complete hospital ward equipment. The equipment will be accompanied, also aboard the "Paris," by four ambulances which have already been officially accepted on behalf of his government by Dr. Fernando de los Rios, Spanish Ambassador to the United States.

"The personnel has been chosen carefully from among more than 150 applicants," said Dr. Miller. "An astounding number of the applicants for medical service in Spain were professionally and temperamentally fitted to go. But we had to choose, due to limitation of funds, between sending more people or more medical and surgical supplies. We chose to meet the emergency by shipping only a skeleton personnel now, and increasing our shipment of supplies and equipment."

Mr. NITTLE. Mr. Chairman, in order to refresh the committee's recollection with respect to Dr. Louis Miller, I should like to note for the record that in 1948 the committee received testimony relating to the Arthur Adams Soviet espionage ring which operated out of a jewelry shop in New York City managed by one Victoria Stone. In 1938, under the name of Arthur Alexandrovich Adams, a Soviet espionage agent, born either in Sweden or Russia, entered the United States from Canada with a fraudulent Canadian birth certificate. Arthur Adams participated in the Russian revolution of 1905 and had made several previous sojourns in the United States commencing in the year 1920 or 1921.

During the period of World War II, Adams was discovered to be actively engaged in espionage activities for the Soviet Government, particularly with respect to developments made in the United States relating to nuclear fission. He was in contact with Clarence F. Hiskey, atomic scientist assigned to the Manhattan Project, and also with John Hitchcock Chapin, a chemical engineer employed in the Metallurgical Laboratories in Cleveland, engaged in a project which was even secret within the Manhattan Engineering District Project itself.

The committee, on September 28, 1948, filed with Congress its report entitled *Report on Soviet Espionage Activities in Connection with the Atomic Bomb*. The report stated that Arthur Adams' principal New York contacts during the 1940's were Victoria Stone, Julius Heiman, Eric Bernay, Samuel Novick, and Dr. Louis Miller.

In 1951 Louis Francis Budenz testified in executive session before this committee that Dr. Louis Miller had been a physician in Metropolitan New York, and that he met Dr. Miller during the 1940's on occasions at enlarged meetings of the National Committee of the Communist Party of the United States. He testified that Dr. Miller had been very active in organizing Communist physicians.

We have endeavored to subpoena Dr. Louis Miller to obtain his testimony at this hearing today with respect to his activities as medical director of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee. Service was repeatedly attempted, without success, at his office and residence, 201 Beach 27, Far Rockaway, Long Island, N.Y., and at his apartment, 340 West 28th St., New York City.

Mr. MOULDER. Any other questions?

Mr. WILLIS. Mr. Chairman, I request that that subpoena be carried as outstanding.

Mr. MOULDER. Yes, it is so ordered.

Congressman Bruce has a question he would like to ask.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Very good.

Mr. BRUCE. I understood you to testify a few moments ago that the medical supplies that you purchased through your organization are sent directly to a hospital in Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Right.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you have any means of following up on the use of the medical supplies that you send to this hospital?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Now, we have the means of certifying this from the answer of the doctors who are in charge of receiving the medication.

Mr. BRUCE. Are not the doctors in charge of that hospital at the whim of the Cuban Government?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know because I don't know exactly how it operates. The Nacional Hospital is like Bellevue Hospital and Bellevue is not at the whim of Mayor Wagner.

Mr. BRUCE. I think when you compare a Cuban hospital under the existing dictatorship in Cuba with any hospital in the United States you are stretching credulity a little far. It is a fact that all institutions in Cuba are under the control of the Cuban Government directly. Is that not so?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I suppose. I don't know. I don't know that exactly.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you have any means, through your committee, of checking and following through on the use of the medical supplies that you send outside of the secondhand reports the Cuban Government sends to you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, again I have to say that there are a group of doctors, some of them independent, and some of them associated with the staff of the hospital, who are in charge of seeing that the medicines arrive and are nationally distributed, and we get their receipt from them—

Mr. BRUCE. But you get the receipt from the Cuban doctors; is that correct?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. From the Cuban doctors.

Mr. BRUCE. The Cuban doctors are part of a hospital controlled by the Castro government?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Some of them are part of the hospital, some of them a part of the medical school of the university.

Mr. BRUCE. It is a state institution, however?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Some of them are private doctors, from what I understand.

Mr. BRUCE. And it is a state institution, is it not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I suppose.

Mr. BRUCE. And as a state institution, it is under the control of the Castro government, is that not correct?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I suppose so.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you have any faith in the Castro government?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Now you are coming to politics.

Mr. BRUCE. No, I am not.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We are not concerned with politics.

Mr. BRUCE. I am coming to the distribution of supplies for which you are raising funds in the United States. I am simply trying to determine whether you have any adequate means, outside of the Communist government of Cuba and their representatives, selected and controlled by them, of following up on the use of the medical supplies that you send there. Do you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, it is very difficult to answer the question the way you put it because it sounds so ominous.

Mr. BRUCE. It is ominous.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't see it as ominous. I see it as a group of doctors who I know about as people, from friends and relatives of

mine, who know that these are decent, honorable people. They are not like that with a machinegun going over their head.

Mr. BRUCE. They are not in Cuba today.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am Cuban and I know what Cuba has always been.

Mr. BRUCE. Well, do you know what it is now?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know what it is now in your terms.

Mr. BRUCE. Not in my terms, in your terms. Do you know what it is now?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This is political. I will be glad to discuss it with you after the hearing, but it doesn't belong in here.

Mr. BRUCE. We are discussing it now while you are on the stand.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. No.

Mr. BRUCE. As to the distribution of the medical supplies that you provide to the Cuban Government.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. To my knowledge and belief it is distributed legitimately by a number of doctors who have become responsible and who were reputable before the revolution. They are known as good doctors.

Mr. BRUCE. I think you would find that there are thousands of Cuban children, also who were of reputable families in what you call before the revolution, many of whom have now been transported to the Soviet Union.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This I haven't followed political. I do not wish to discuss anything because this is not the area.

Mr. BRUCE. But you are dealing with a political institution.

Mr. DEL VILLAR. No, I am sending supplies of medicine for people to be cured.

Mr. BRUCE. What is Juanita? (See del Villar Exhibit No. 2, p. 1861.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Juanita is a prototype child.

Mr. BRUCE. She is not a real child as far as you are concerned?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Is this all right for me to say, or is this a direct question?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I have seen this. I took the notion from ads that I have seen from other charitable organizations where they say, you know, Johnny is barefoot and this and that. Juanita is a name in Spanish.

Mr. BRUCE. You make a specific statement in this ad. You say:

In a small white cot in a ward in a Cuban hospital, Juanita, 11 years old and all unknowing is waging a fight for her life.

This is a statement of fact.

Her father, a physician on the hospital staff stands at his child's bedside.

Who is Juanita?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Juanita is a poetic license.

Mr. BRUCE. It is a figment of your imagination?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That's right.

Mr. BRUCE. The fact that you state in your ad that her father is a physician is, too, part of the figment?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It is a perfectly possible situation. It is nothing underworld or contrived.

Mr. BRUCE. It isn't contrived?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, because you know there are millions of little Johnnies sick in the hospitals in our country or in any country in the world.

Mr. BRUCE. But in your ad you describe her father as a physician on the staff at the child's beside. You talk about his love insufficient to stave off death, and how he feels helpless and despairing, "trained like his medical colleagues" in the use of pharmaceutical products. You build quite a case in this figment of the imagination.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am a good copy writer, I guess.

Mr. BRUCE. This is just an ad?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It is an ad, but it isn't, you see——

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. My counsel is correct. Actually, the way you put it, it gives a derogatory quality which it doesn't have, because you know when you take a classical case in any study on medicine you don't give the names and addresses of people, and you make a composite presentation of a perfectly authentic fact.

Mr. BRUCE. You go into pretty good details here, however, about Juanita and her father being on the staff of the hospital.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But, sir, may I ask you with all respect, what are we going to prove with this?

Mr. BRUCE. I am trying to find out directly what followup you have—I am going back to that. You are describing a physician and his daughter in an ad. We have certain regulations on advertising, generally in force in the United States. You built up a case here which now you say is strictly an advertising gimmick, in other words.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not a gimmick. It is a composite of a very real situation.

Mr. BRUCE. How do you know it is real?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Because I know of sick children in hospitals in Cuba as well as here.

Mr. BRUCE. But you do not know whether or not these children are being treated by the medical supplies you send in? You have no direct control over it?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, no, I don't have any personal supervision.

Mr. BRUCE. Does your committee have any control over the drugs?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We made a request from the State Department to allow Dr. Miller or any one of us to go to Cuba so that we could see this for ourselves and set it up the way we would like it.

Mr. BRUCE. But you have no——

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But it was denied.

Mr. BRUCE. You have no direct control over the medical supplies you send there?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I could hardly do that until you granted me permission to go.

Mr. BRUCE. You have no means, then, of following through to know whether or not they are being used for the Juanita that you describe theoretically.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not at the present, I have no direct connection, no, but I would like to. I wish you would send me.

Mr. BRUCE. Is it not possible, then, that this could be diverted for treatment of the Cuban Army?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't think.

Mr. BRUCE. These are medical supplies. Why don't you think so?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Because I have faith in the doctors with whom I have been dealing. They are doctors of reputation in Cuba and outstanding. They are decent people and I know that medicines have gone to the Cuban hospital and to many other hospitals of the island.

Mr. BRUCE. This is a state hospital down there, is it not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I guess so. It's government owned, I suppose.

Mr. BRUCE. And it is a matter of record that in Communist dictatorships hospitals and all other institutions become vehicles of the government for their end, is that not true?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You know, sir, I don't know how familiar you were with Cuba before, this particular quotation that you are referring to, but it was always like this. In Cuba the hospitals, the newspapers, everything was controlled by one or another member of government who owned everything and who was a completely, as you know, immoral and corrupt figure. This is the record of everybody.

Mr. BRUCE. I am not quarreling with that at all. I am simply trying to find out whether you have any control over the distribution of medical supplies which you send them.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Personally, no.

Mr. BRUCE. Does your committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, because we have no one there.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you know for a fact that drugs and medical supplies that you are sending to the Castro-controlled hospital are being used for the purpose for which you allegedly send them?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am perfectly willing to say that it is so.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you know this is so?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I haven't been there to see it. But then I could ask you anything like this about your own home at this minute. Do you know such a thing is happening. You have to believe that your wife is doing such and such?

Mr. BRUCE. That is a nice diversion, but it is not at the point of the question.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, it is the same thing. I believe that these doctors are decent and they are not using it for tricks.

Mr. BRUCE. What we have established here is that you are raising funds to buy medical supplies. You send them to a Communist government-controlled hospital.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You label and make——

Mr. BRUCE. I do not label.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is diversionary.

Mr. BRUCE. You think it is diversionary when we are talking about quarantine and possible blockade and men dying because——

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This I understand.

Mr. BRUCE. —of Communist-controlled Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We are sending it for people to be cured whether they are pro, or in favor, or in between. This is no concern of ours. We want it to be sent so that everybody gets it.

Mr. BRUCE. But you don't know this for a fact?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. As a witness personally and alive, no.

MR. BRUCE. You have no means of actual control over the distribution of the goods?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. No, we do not.

MR. BRUCE. And the only way you have is the reports that are coming from the doctors there?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. That's correct.

MR. BRUCE. And these doctors are under the control of the government, are they not?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Well, the thing is I would like to add that this is not a kind of secret midnight operation and that only these doctors know about it with a mask and a hood and that they distribute these things mysteriously. This is public notice. The shipments come into the airport and everybody in Cuba knows that they are arriving, and the doctors—

MR. BRUCE. How do you know this?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Because I have heard it commented. I have heard it.

MR. BRUCE. From whom did you hear it?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. The letters we get.

MR. BRUCE. From whom?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. From my mother. My mother says, "I hear that a shipment came, was mentioned in the paper. I hear that medicines were distributed," or something like that in a very innocuous manner, but the way it sounds it is so nerve-wracking.

MR. BRUCE. It is very nerve-wracking.

MRS. DEL VILLAR. But that is not how the medicines operate.

MR. BRUCE. But you don't know this for a fact?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. I am not there. I don't know for a fact anything that I am not in here for.

MR. BRUCE. Do the representatives of your committee have access to the personal followup on the distribution of these supplies?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Not unless you grant us permission to go there, which is what we would like to do.

MR. BRUCE. In other words, you send them in and the distribution then is up to the Castro government, in effect?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. The distribution there is up to the doctors who are in charge of the distributing, and this is what I know.

MR. BRUCE. O.K.

MR. SCHERER. Actually you don't know whether these medicines are used for people who are in favor of the present regime, do you, and those who are not—

MRS. DEL VILLAR. I am in complete confidence. I have felt confident all along. It never entered my head to doubt it that the doctors are distributing the medicine wherever it is needed in the hospitals throughout the island. That is all I know.

MR. MOULDER. That is your opinion and it is not based upon any actual information?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Well, you see, you put me in a very awkward situation, because if you said "Look, we gave you permission to go and now you are not telling us"—

MR. MOULDER. You say you are not there and you don't know.

Do you want to ask her any more questions?

MR. WILLIS. May I ask one question just to follow through for the record.

Mr. MOULDER. Yes.

Mr. WILLIS. You say you made application with the Department of State or the Department of Commerce to send a representative there. You made that application personally?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I signed it, but it was with the accord of the committee.

Mr. WILLIS. And were the names of the other committee members on that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It is here. It is Exhibit No. 1—I don't know.

Mr. WILLIS. That is the letter from which counsel read a while ago and put in the record?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That's right, sir.

Mr. WILLIS. And that request was denied?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Was denied.

Mr. WILLIS. Did they tell you why? Did they write a letter?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't remember. I don't think the denial was, as I remember—I don't have any special feeling about it. I mean it was nothing unpleasant or anything. They just said they couldn't at this time grant us permission or something like this. That is what I remember, but I don't exactly.

Mr. SCHERER. You are engaged in this type of work and have been so engaged for quite a few months now. Did you ever know, before you heard Mr. Willis this morning, that the Communists over the years have used food and medical supplies to give to those whom the Communists consider loyal to the Communist causes in the country and deprive food and medicine to others whom they did not consider loyal to the Communist cause, and as a method of punishment?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You ask me if I knew this?

Mr. SCHERER. Yes, did you ever hear that before?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. SCHERER. In all your work?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. SCHERER. You do not know that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, because as I told you before I have never been politically minded so I didn't pay much attention.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you know now from a Member of Congress, that our investigations have shown, that that has happened over the years in countries that have been under Communist discipline?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I suppose.

You may have found that, but, as the Honorable Congressman there says, I don't know. I didn't see it. I don't know it for a fact.

Mr. SCHERER. You don't know, then, whether such a policy is being followed today in Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know that and I tell you the only thing I can say is that my mother, who is a lady of the old guard and not at all a rabble rouser, has not been oppressed or persecuted in any way whatsoever and that she is just a quiet little lady, elderly, who lives quietly.

Mr. MOULDER. We have covered this point——

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. She has not been denied anything.

Mr. MOULDER. —several times. Is there any need for this witness following the recess?

Mr. NITTLE. Yes, sir.

Mr. MOULDER. Then we will stand in recess until 2 p.m.

You will return.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Do you want me again?

Mr. MOULDER. Yes, 2 o'clock.

(Committee members present at the time of recess: Representatives Moulder, Willis, Scherer, and Bruce.)

(Whereupon, at 12:35 p.m., Wednesday, November 14, 1962, the hearings were recessed to reconvene at 2 p.m. of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION—WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1962

(The subcommittee reconvened at 2 p.m., Representative Morgan M. Moulder presiding.)

Present: Representatives Moulder and Willis.

Mr. MOULDER. The committee will come to order. You will resume the witness stand, please.

TESTIMONY OF MELITTA DEL VILLAR—Resumed

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed, Mr. Nittle.

Mr. POLLITT. Mr. Nittle, this seems to be an original, and I would rather you held it than I.

Mr. NITTLE. Yes. We can pick these up a little later.

I call your attention again to Exhibit 2, the *New York Times* ad, dated yesterday. I would like to ask you: When was the decision made by your group to place this ad in the *New York Times*?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I would say about 2 weeks ago, at least. We have been contemplating having such an ad for a long time.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you prepare this advertisement personally?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, me and the other—you know, Mr. Gluck and the other people.

Mr. NITTLE. Who besides Mr. Gluck participated in the preparation of this advertisement?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. He didn't participate, actually. I am afraid if it is a bad literary production, it is my doing. But I told him I was doing it, and he knew, because I don't do these things except by approval of the committee, you see.

Mr. NITTLE. Where is Dr. Miller now?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know.

Mr. NITTLE. Is he still the medical director of your committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I hope so.

Mr. NITTLE. I believe you have indicated that names of the officers of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee have been published to the world, so to speak. Have they been?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I think so. The officers, yes.

Mr. NITTLE. We have been unable to find any public reference to the names of Dr. Louis Miller as medical director or to the name of Sidney J. Gluck as treasurer. How do you account for that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, we have it on our stationery, which I didn't bring any copy of, and we also have it in the brochure that we have about the work of the committee.

Mr. NITTLE. Their names have not appeared in the *National Guardian* or *Monthly Review*?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, because we haven't placed ads in the *Monthly Review*, and the *National Guardian* had a small ad, I think, prior to Mr. Gluck's, you know, being a member of the committee—I think. I am not sure of the dates, but I think so.

Mr. NITTLE. Did Dr. Louis Miller engage in travel to Cuba as medical director at any time after the formation of the group in October 1961?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not to my belief and knowledge, because there is a travel ban, and that is why we asked for permission. We would have liked him or someone else from the committee to go.

Mr. NITTLE. Did he travel outside of the United States on the business of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. Not in an official capacity, no, because we don't send emissaries, you know.

Mr. WILLIS. Let me ask you this question. I may anticipate your answer.

When were you served with a subpoena?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Tuesday night I received it. This gentleman here brought it.

Mr. WILLIS. What date was that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Tuesday a week ago. Yes. I don't remember the date. I can tell you right away. I have a little calendar here, and that is how I can tell you the date.

Today is what?

Mr. NITTLE. I believe November 6 was the date of service.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Today is the 14th? I got it the evening of the 5th. I think that is when I came.

Mr. WILLIS. What date is that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The 5th of November. I know I came home, and this gentleman was waiting [pointing to Mr. Louis J. Russell, investigator].

Mr. WILLIS. And what is the date of the ad?

Mr. NITTLE. November 13, Mr. Willis.

Mr. WILLIS. Was the preparation of the ad planned since the service of that subpoena?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. We had decided, the committee had decided, a long time ago, that we should have an ad in the *Times*. There was something we wanted to do. The summer, you know, is a bad time, and we thought it wouldn't have been practical.

Mr. WILLIS. I am being very practical, too, right now. You realize that.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. In what way?

Mr. WILLIS. Just to find out in my own mind, so that I can judge your answer, whether the decision to place the ad was after you and others had been subpoenaed. That is obvious.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We had the plan of the ad for a long time.

Mr. WILLIS. I say that because of the protesting telegram and your husband's press release.

Anyway, you have answered the question. And I anticipated your answer.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. I understand.

Mr. NITTLE. When did you deliver this item for publication to the *New York Times*? (See del Villar Exhibit No. 2, p. 1861.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I think it was either Saturday last, Friday or Saturday or Monday. I am not sure.

Mr. NITTLE. Do you have knowledge of any travel made by Dr. Louis Miller outside the United States since the formation of your committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Dr. Miller's travels and affairs and his trips on vacation and otherwise are no concern of mine.

Mr. NITTLE. I did not ask you that. I asked you whether you had knowledge of his travels outside the United States since October 1961.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. May I consult with counsel? Because I don't wish to do anything beyond the work of the committee.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. My counsel considers it all right for me to say the truth, which is that I believe he went on his vacation to Mexico.

Mr. NITTLE. Now, on March 16, 1962, Dr. Louis Miller made application to the Passport Division of the Department of State, as you are well aware.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Right.

Mr. WILLIS. Well, is she?

Did you know that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Beg your pardon?

Mr. WILLIS. Did you know he had made application?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, I signed the request.

Mr. NITTLE. As a matter of fact, in support of his validation of a passport——

Mr. WILLIS. To travel where?

Mr. NITTLE. He stated in his validation request to the Passport Division, Mr. Willis, that he desired to travel to Cuba for 10 or 15 days. This letter is del Villar Exhibit No. 10.

Mr. WILLIS. When was that?

Mr. NITTLE. March 20.

Mr. WILLIS. March 20, 1962?

Mr. NITTLE. Yes.

Mr. WILLIS. He applied for a passport?

Mr. NITTLE. He applied on March 16, 1962, for validation of a passport that had been previously issued to him in 1961, in which he stated that he desired to travel to Cuba for a period of 10 or 15 days, commencing March 20, 1962.

He further stated that he would travel via Pan American Airways on behalf of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 10" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 10

CUBA VALIDATION

March 16, 1962

Passport Division
U.S. Dept. of State
N.Y. N.Y.

Passport B-615254
Iss. Sept 6, 1961

MILLER

NOT CITE

Sir:

The following is an application for validation of my present passport - A B-615254 Sept 6, 1961 for a trip to Cuba for 10 to 15 days beginning about March 20, to 25th 1962 VIA Pan American Airways. My residence in Cuba will be Hotel RIVIERA, Havana. I understand that I am required to register with the Swiss Consulate in Havana and shall do so.

The purpose of my trip is on behalf the a committee, MEDICAL AID to Cuba Committee in N.Y. City of which I am its Medical Director. In the interest of our medical relief program it is necessary for me to make an on the spot survey of medical conditions, supply needs of medicines, Hospital supplies, pharmaceuticals, foodstuffs etc etc.

Very truly

Norman Miller M.D.

(Committee description literature herewith enclosed)

Return to

225 Central Park W

N.Y. City

cc

130 B-615254

1015

Mr. WILLIS. I am interested in that. We are getting down to substantial evidence.

May I ask two or three questions?

May I see that letter.

I had not read this letter. Now I have some questions.

I asked you before we adjourned whether you—by “you,” I mean the committee—had made application, as you said you were very anxious to do, to send an on-the-spot representative to Cuba, so that you could know, as you so dramatically said, with your own eyes, what was going on with your medical aid. You said you had, and that it had been denied. I am correct thus far, am I not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is right.

Mr. WILLIS. And I asked you about the date of it, and you referred to this letter of March 16, 1962, a copy of which has now been handed to me, and for the first time I have read it.

And I asked you to verify what you had previously said, that that opportunity to have representatives of your committee go to Cuba and see what was happening to your medical aid was denied, and you said it had been denied by the Department of State.

And I asked you this morning, before we recessed, for a copy of the letter of denial, whether they had assigned any reason for it. You said, with telling effect, “Yes, but there was nothing unusual, unpleasant, about the denial.”

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is what I remember.

Mr. WILLIS. That is according to what you remember. Do you have a copy of the letter of denial?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. I must have in the office, I suppose.

Mr. NITTLE. The committee has a copy of the letter of refusal dated March 28, 1962, addressed by the State Department to Dr. Miller, which is del Villar Exhibit No. 11.

(Document marked “del Villar Exhibit No. 11” follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 11

MAR 28 1962

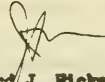
In reply refer to
PT/D-130:Miller, Louis

March 28, 1962

Dear Dr. Miller:

Careful consideration has been given to your request for validation of your passport for travel to Cuba on behalf of the Committee for Medical Aid to Cuba. Exceptions to the general restrictions on travel to Cuba are made in only a few instances. It is not considered that your requests come within any of the established criteria and therefore, it is with regret that I must advise you that your passport cannot be validated for such travel.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Ricksy
Deputy Director, Passport Office

Enclosure:

Passport No. B6 15254

Dr. Louis Miller,
225 Central Park W.,
New York City.

PT/D:JAMang:prg
3-28-62

Mr. WILLIS. Well, you answered—and you voluntarily said it—that there was nothing unusual about the reply, nothing accusatory about it, but it had been denied.

Now, I see from your letter, signed by you, dated March 16, 1962, that the person, apparently, you had in mind to send to Cuba to oversee or overlook your operations, was this Dr. Louis Miller, a fact I did not know until now.

Now, I regard you as an unusually intelligent person.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Thank you, sir.

Mr. WILLIS. And I ask you this simple question. Do you think that the denial which you complained about, on the part of the Government of the United States, to permit your committee to oversee what was being done with your medical supplies—that that denial was based upon the fact that the person you wished to send there was Dr. Miller, whose record was read into the record of today? Do you think that has any connection?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. With this record you have shown me, perhaps it has. But I had no way of knowing, as I remember, from the letter, you see. I didn't connect anything.

Mr. WILLIS. Well, you seemed, as I recall, to be slightly reproachful of the Government of the United States not to permit a committee that unquestionably you have deep faith in having representatives in Cuba to oversee your work.

Now, as an American citizen, I ask you this: Do you blame the Government of the United States for not having approved your sending Dr. Miller to do your charitable work in Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Excuse me, please.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. WILLIS. And I ask you to be very careful in answering, because I might have some other questions after you do answer.

Mr. MOULDER. The question is: Do you now criticize the Government?

Mr. WILLIS. Do you now, in view of these revelations, blame the Government for not permitting your committee—that, let's assume you have deep faith in—

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I do.

Mr. WILLIS (continuing). To send as your representative to Cuba, with what is going on, the person named Dr. Louis Miller? Do you blame our Government?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I would like, sir, for you—

Mr. WILLIS. I will caution you: Do not make a speech to me, because I am going to cross-examine you.

Please answer the question.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

The thing is that no question, sir, is black or white. It is not a yes or no question, because Dr. Miller—I know him within the context of the committee, and he has never done anything that anyone could consider in any way harmful to the country. He, as a medical man, seemed to be the adequate person to see a medical situation, see to, and on that basis, let us consider the following: If a person, a convict, from a criminal case, say a murderer—

Mr. WILLIS. What?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. If a murderer does a thing and is punished and comes out, you don't forever keep penalizing him for something that he has already been punished for.

Now, the record that you tell me would substantiate the State Department's refusal. I understand what you mean.

Isn't that what you say?

Mr. WILLIS. I ask you: Now that you know the facts, are you still reproachful of the Government of the United States not issuing a passport to Dr. Miller to represent your committee in Cuba?

That is my question.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, but that is a political——

Mr. WILLIS. If you want it that way, madam, you and I will have it, and I am not quarreling, because I have a lot of questions. I have asked you a question. Do you want to answer it?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, yes. I would like to say that the thing is that the Government of the United States I hope has understanding that Dr. Miller is not doing anything wrong with the committee. And on the basis——

Mr. WILLIS. What committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Our committee.

And on the basis of his work with the committee, he wouldn't do any harm.

Now, if they have their reservations because they think they shouldn't do it, that is their privilege. I am not questioning it.

Mr. WILLIS. So you are not answering the question. Therefore, I will ask you a few others.

Mr. MOULDER. As I understand, she says she does not criticize the Government for making the decision.

Mr. WILLIS. You do, or do not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I can't argue, because that opens a completely different line of argument, which I am not qualified to and can't undertake.

(At this point Mr. Scherer entered the hearing room.)

Mr. WILLIS. Yes, I think you can defend yourself, because I have questioned you, and because you appear to me as being a person of deep faith.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am.

Mr. WILLIS. And I think probably you believe in all this being done. But yet, to be frank about it, this telegram we received this morning, signed by quite a few people, taken up by your husband, in a press release, addressed, as you say, to all the newspapers on earth, or in America, that wished to carry it, carries, if you will permit me, a certain sting at this committee, as though we are accusing you personally, or anyone else.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But, sir, the very fact that I come here carries a terrible sting for the work I am doing, because the minute anyone will say, "Look, Melitta, you were called by the committee." And that already makes me an un-American. And this makes it very bad for my work. It is besmirching my work.

Mr. WILLIS. I have not said that. Now, I will ask you a few more questions.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Please.

Mr. WILLIS. With regard to the questions that my colleague was asking you, right before we adjourned, about whether you knew for

what purpose these medical supplies were being used, and you said you did not know.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I assume, and I have absolute confidence——

Mr. WILLIS. Really, it is the policy of the Government of the United States, as I understand it, through our President, not to deny medical aid to Cuba.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is correct.

Mr. WILLIS. So there is no quarrel there.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is why I work under this exemption.

Mr. WILLIS. Now let me ask you this. Do you not agree that it is not so much to whom the aid will be extended at the other end, by people of noble humanitarian motives, as for the Government of the United States through its legislative branch to inquire into the motives of those behind the movement? Let us say we will exclude yourself for the moment.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Do I agree that you should not enter into inquiry into the motives of our doing?

Mr. WILLIS. I say exclude yourself for the moment. Exclude yourself as a person, and even exclude your committee, which is the subject of inquiry right now.

And admitting that it is noble and humanitarian for people of good, fine, clean, American, charitable, humanitarian motives, to come to the aid of people in distress——

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Right.

Mr. WILLIS. Particularly the sick and the maimed and the afflicted and victims. Assume all that. We are all for that.

Can you not see a line of distinction between those in this country who might be doing it for an evil political motive that you do not want to talk about, as compared to those who might not be doing it contrary to the best interests of this Government?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I suppose. People of all kinds get into all things. This is true in any situation. When a person joins anything, say even the most wonderful work, they could do it for the wrong reasons. A man who could be a surgeon because he is a butcher. I don't know.

Mr. WILLIS. All right. You being philosophical about it, I will take you up on that.

Do you not think it is possible for people of evil motives to use an organization as a vehicle to do evil?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is right. There is a possibility in everything.

Mr. WILLIS. Do not misunderstand me. I am not pointing the finger at you.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I understand.

Mr. WILLIS. Do you not think that perhaps that with this telegram, which is certainly unkind to this committee, and your husband's publication of it, dated for release while we are having these hearings, implying that we, as Members of Congress, representing the people of the United States—do you not think it is as unkind, as you have been implying here, in your dramatic, theatrical way, "Please leave this alone," and all that kind of stuff?

You see what I mean?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, but——

Mr. WILLIS. Do you not think that we are justified in raising our eyebrows, when we know through our investigations, that people like

Dr. Miller, if the record is true—I do not know him. Or what is the other man? The treasurer, and perhaps others who have been named. And they are subpoenaed. You have been asking us to try to see your side. Have you thought enough to see our side as Members of Congress?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, look, sir——

Mr. WILLIS. If you ask me a question, I will answer it. Why do you not ask me, and we can keep it up for 3 days, if you want to.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, I am no match to you, because you are supremely intelligent.

Mr. WILLIS. "Methinks" sometimes we protest too much.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is Shakespeare. Do you think that logic would apply to any situation or group? By the same token, your committee, with all respect—there could be members, and I do not mean you or the gentlemen present, because I do not know your work or anything at all about it, except just now. And it could also be possible that the fact that there is a person in office does not—the cloak does not make the priest. So it is not necessarily that this man has the best intentions. You see?

Mr. WILLIS. All right. Let us take it that way. You are the chairman. According to you, this is your conception of a noble, humanitarian effort, to do good, to preach love.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. What is wrong with that?

(At this point Mr. Bruce entered the hearing room.)

Mr. WILLIS. So be it. What is wrong with that? But yet, when we talk to you about your associates and all the others, you say, in effect, "Please dissociate me from politics."

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That's right.

Mr. WILLIS. That is right? Well, you see, we have to view it differently. We have to take it organization by organization, and separate the wheat from the chaff. And if, in the barrel, there are a few rotten apples—that does not include you, let us say—we are obligated to see the motives behind the organization and to count all the apples.

And when I now discover that you made application to have a representative go to Cuba to verify that your noble intentions were carried out—and I now see that your representative was to be Dr. Miller, and that the Department of State turns it down, and you seem to have been reproachful of that—I have some question about it.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, but I think I answered that already. I think Mr. Moulder can agree that I have answered it.

Mr. MOULDER. Well, let us proceed, so that we can finish this hearing.

Do you have any other questions?

Mr. NITTLE. Yes, sir.

Dr. Miller's passport and application of March 16, 1962, as has been pointed out, was rejected by the Department of State, in a letter dated March 28, 1962.

Despite the rejection of Dr. Miller's passport application, did he nonetheless, to your knowledge, depart for Cuba via Mexico on or about April 4, 1962?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. To my knowledge and belief, absolutely not.

Mr. NITTLE. Did he depart for Mexico on April 4, 1962, after the rejection of his passport application?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I understand that he did want to go to Mexico on his vacation.

MR. NITTLE. Well, now, you more than "understand" that he went there. You sent him a telegram, did you not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. NITTLE. I hand you a copy of a telegram marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 12, dated April 4, 1962, addressed to Dr. Louis Miller, care of Ticket Counter, Air France, Idlewild Airport. The telegram indicates thereon that the addressee, Dr. Louis Miller, was departing on flight 707 for Mexico.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I didn't remember any of that.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 12" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 12

TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY TELEPHONE

\$ S E

DR LOUIS MILLER
D62 APR 4 PM SLIGHT 707
AIR FRANCE
AIRPORT
DEPARTING #30PM
FOR MEXICO

WACC SEND BESTEST WISHES FOR HAPPY TRIP
LOVE

BOOKED
SKELETON IN FILM

DATE _____

CLERK

SENT BY MISS VILLAR

170
217 APR 4 244PEST
000000
8 PD
VZ
LAC 4 0729
000000
INLEWILD AIRPORT
NY
JH JY
000000
MELATTA
0000
MEDICAL AID
147 WEST 33 ST
NYC

Mr. NITTLE. And the message contained in your telegram is:

"MACC send bestest wishes for happy trip. Love." It is signed "Melitta."

The telegram is subscribed for by the Medical Aid, 147 West 33d Street, New York City.

Q I ask you: Did Dr. Miller, to your knowledge, depart for Mexico on business of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. We do not send official delegates any place.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you use the funds of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee to make payment for that telegram, which emanated from your business headquarters?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, yes. This is of course.

Mr. NITTLE. You did use the money of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sure. Any member who would go on a trip or have an operation will get our telegram.

Mr. NITTLE. I hand you a copy of the ticket obtained by Dr. Miller from Air France, dated April 2, 1962, which has been marked del Villar Exhibit No. 13.

Mr. MOULDER. Let me see the telegram.

Mr. NITTLE. The purchase price of the ticket is \$362.61. Did the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee finance the purchase of this ticket for Dr. Louis Miller?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not to my knowledge, sir. That would be too expensive.

Mr. SCHERER. You would not say it did not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, I didn't. That I know of, no. I don't know.

Mr. SCHERER. Did you know at the time you sent in this telegram on his departure for Mexico that he had been denied a passport by the State Department?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sure. That is why he didn't go to Cuba. Of course.

Mr. SCHERER. Let me tell you if the State Department had given this man a passport, as I know his record, this member of the committee would have somebody from the State Department here and want to know why they did give it to him.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This I didn't know, you see. This I don't know.

Mr. SCHERER. Under the circumstances.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I can only speak for what I know.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, in the light of some of the things you have learned today about some of your associates—and there is some more you might learn later on—do you think that the release made by your husband, as referred to by Congressman Willis, is justified?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't remember what the release says, but I can only say that when my husband, who knows what I do—he otherwise has nothing to do with the committee; he is volunteering for this—knows how hard I work, how much I sacrifice, and I don't say it virtuously, I say it as a statement of fact, and everything like that, and suddenly I get this invitation, which has very sad and negative implications, as you know, and can destroy the work and destroy my reputation, he feels that this is not quite fair.

Mr. SCHERER. But you would not want the money that you are raising with the aid of these other people, many of whom, to say the least, are suspect, to be used for political purposes, would you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. SCHERER. You would not want it?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I do not. We never have.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 13" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 13

É MIS PAR AIR FRANCE				BILLET DE PASSAGE		0573		0584 164				
SOMMIS AUX CONDITIONS DE TRANSPORT FIGURANT AU DOS DU BILLET				AGENCE ÉMETTRICE		DATE ET LIEU D'ÉMISSION APR 24/62						
POUR L'AGENCE ÉMETTRICE		ITINÉRAIRE COMPLET		BILLET COMPLÉMENTAIRES		AGENT :						
DE/A	Trans- porteur	Composantes du prix	Origine : -----	Modèle ----- N° -----								
			Destination : -----	Modèle ----- N° -----								
			É MIS EN ÉCHANGE DE		DATE ET LIEU DE L'ÉMISSION ORIGINALE							
			Modèle ----- N° -----	Le 1 ----- A 1 -----								
			ENDOS									
			BAGAGES		TARIF		Trans- porteur		No de la ligne	Date	Heure	État Rds.
Trans-Enregistrés Charges Nb Pds Pds			Valable jusqu'au		Classes / Base							
					DE <i>Delfewild</i>		T J AF		0707	04/02	5.30 pm	OK
					Mexico City		T		OPE	N		
					Los Angeles		T		OPE	N		
					Delfewild		T J		OPE	N		
					NOM DU PASSAGER				NON CESSIBLE			
					DR. LOUIS MILLER							
Prix : \$ 348.10			Si les passagers entraînent un voyage comportant une destination finale ou une escale dans un pays autre que le pays de départ, leur transport peut être régi par la Convention de Varsovie qui, en général, limite la responsabilité du transporteur en cas de mort ou de lésions corporelles, ainsi qu'en cas de perte ou d'avarie de bagages									
Contre- Valeur :												
Taxes :												
TOTAL : \$ 362.61												
MODE DE PAIEMENT : <i>check</i>												

Mr. SCHERER. And you would think it would be the duty of this committee to determine whether or not they are being used for political purposes. You want them used for Cubans, irrespective of their political beliefs?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Correct.

Mr. SCHERER. And you would object if they were being used to aid those who were loyal to a certain regime, and being refused others, to punish them?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Right. They should be given indiscriminate of opinion.

Mr. SCHERER. That is what this committee by these hearings is trying to determine. As I have said before, and as Mr. Willis has said, the Communists in the past have used food and medicines as weapons to promote the Communist program of subversion. In most instances they have not used food and medical supplies for humanitarian purposes which you contend to be the objective of your committee. Persons supporting the Communist regimes have been given needed medical attention and supplies while those who differ politically with their Communist masters have been callously deprived of vitally needed food, medicines, and medical care.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I understand, but you see——

Mr. SCHERER. We have good and sufficient reason to believe that this is happening in Cuba today.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But you see, sir——

Mr. SCHERER. The purpose of these hearings, therefore, is to let people who are contributing money to your committee know two things: first, whether your committee is Communist infiltrated and controlled, and, second, whether their money is being used for humanitarian purposes, as you say, or as a weapon in the cold war, as I believe.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That may be, sir. But the question is that in undertaking this kind of work, if I begin to think of all the things you have said, I am so horrified and so intimidated that then I say, "Well, nobody should do any medical aid, nobody should rescue the ship, nobody should rescue the dying, because maybe there is a Communist there who is doing it for the wrong reasons."

This I cannot—You see?

Mr. SCHERER. Well, would you not like to know, through an investigation such as we are conducting, whether or not the funds you are raising are being used for the humanitarian purposes to which you subscribe, or whether they are being used by the people who surround you and whose conduct and records are suspect, for the purpose of aiding a regime that is an enemy of the United States?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I have said already that I have absolute confidence and faith that the medicine goes to people all over.

Mr. SCHERER. I understand, but you avoid answering my question. I do not see how you can say anything else, in view of your testimony, but "yes" to the question I have just asked.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. What is the question again? Because I get confused; there is so much barrage, you know.

I mean: Is the idea to destroy the committee? Is this what you would like that I should do no more medical aid?

Mr. WILLIS. Of course not.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I do not understand.

Mr. NITTLE. I believe that you indicated that the ticket acquired by Dr. Louis Miller for travel to Mexico in April of 1962, at a cost of \$362.61, was not known by you to have been purchased with the funds of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee.

Mr. WILLIS. She has said she did not.

Mr. NITTLE. But is it not a fact that you do not have the control, or absolute control, over the funds of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. From New York? Oh, yes. I know what the funds I spent. Surely.

Mr. NITTLE. I said you do not have the absolute control over the funds of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, not absolute.

Mr. NITTLE. Am I correct, or am I incorrect?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. By that I mean that I cannot locate when I want something to be done on my own taste?

Mr. NITTLE. I mean to say if funds are to be withdrawn from the account of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, they can be withdrawn without your consent or signature?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not at all. Not at all. Not in terms of the funds of our operational expense.

Mr. NITTLE. I show you a bank authorization form filed by the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee with the Amalgamated Bank of New York, in which the bank is notified that the funds on deposit there of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee may be withdrawn upon the signature of any two of three named persons.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. NITTLE. The three named persons whose signatures appear upon this card are "chairman, Melitta del Villar; vice chairman, Albert S. Baker; and treasurer, Sidney J. Gluck."

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, when you put it this way, I understand what you are leading to.

Mr. NITTLE. Is that your signature upon that card, authorizing the Amalgamated Bank to issue funds from the account of your organization under the signatures of Albert S. Baker and Sidney J. Gluck?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Excuse me for a second.

It is perfectly honest. Don't worry.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. NITTLE. I will number that del Villar Exhibit No. 14.

Mr. NITTLE. Now, will you answer the question, please?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Excuse me for a second, please.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Now, the absolute truth is that there are the three names, as Mr. Nittle says, and I have signed. That is correct.

But as it happens, I am the person who is all the time at the office. And the reason we have the two alternative signatures was in case I would get sick or not be able to be there. But it is not likely for reasons of their own activities, they don't have the same amount of time I can give, that the two of them would sign, since I keep a very close touch with everything that happens, you see.

So usually, and as far as I can remember, I don't think any check has been done—I maybe forget in some instance—I don't think any check has gone out that I haven't seen.

Mr. NITTLE. Why does Albert Baker appear there as vice chairman of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, that is a mistake. For a while he was a sort of an, how you say, ad hoc vice chairman.

Mr. NITTLE. Or was he a cochairman with you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. No.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 14" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 14

Medical Aid to Cuba Committee

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that he has read and understands all of the conditions appearing on the reverse side of this card and hereby assents to each and every one of them.

THE AMALGAMATED BANK OF NEW YORK
UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATION

<p>Chairman <i>Delia del Villar</i> (AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE)</p> <p>Chairman <i>Albert S. Baker</i> (AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE)</p> <p>VICE-CHAIRMAN <i>Samuel J. Guech</i> (AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE)</p> <p>TREASURER _____ (AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE)</p> <p>SECRETARY _____ (AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE)</p> <p>ADDRESS <i>147 West 33rd St NYC</i></p> <p>BUSINESS _____</p> <p>REFERENCES _____</p> <p>REFERENCES <i>day of signature 4/3/62</i></p>	<p>MAY BE SIGNED BY ANY</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>2</i></p> <p>OF THE FOLLOWING</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>3</i></p> <p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">2197-2 516</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>LA-4-0729</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>accepted</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>1-9-62</i></p>
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MEDICAL AID TO CUBA COMMITTEE

(OVER)

Mr. MOULDER. At that point may I ask a question?

You stated at the beginning that you could give us the approximate amount of the total funds collected by your committee since its organization?

Mr. WILLIS. That was covered while you were gone.

Mr. NITTLE. As a matter of fact, when the initial deposit was made to the account of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, it was made, was it not, from the personal account of Albert S. Baker, who initially had personal possession of the finances of your organization?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, there again, there is a very simple explanation to what seems a very sinister thing. And that is, that we started together informally. I didn't know whether it would develop into a committee, whether I would be able to know. I didn't know how the mechanics are. We had no office and we had no funds to establish an

office. So as an accommodation, Mr. Baker, who at the point was sort of informally elected treasurer for that purpose, said, all right, he would assume this nuisance and responsibility and bother.

He is an elderly gentleman and very——

Again, to my knowledge, I have to testify with pride to his record of behavior with us—kind and cooperative and helpful. In fact, many times I felt embarrassed to impose on a gentleman, who could be my father, and have him run errands to the bank.

Mr. WILLIS. Well, please, as I understand it—and certainly I will not express my view about it—I do not know anything about Mr. Baker. We are not pointing the finger of scorn at all of your associates. And that may or may not include him.

The point is—you have used the word “sinister”—whether there are those in your organization who might feel differently than those who look at this thing as a humanitarian venture. I just want to make that statement.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I would like you to bear in mind, sir, that what I say is according to what I know. And my knowledge of all the gentlemen in my association is nothing but the most honorable and the most straightforward and square. Absolutely nothing devious I have seen.

Mr. WILLIS. I am willing to accept the sincerity of that statement.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It is true.

Mr. WILLIS. But that does not answer the question we are after at all.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, no, but I think it is relevant to the committee to know whether these people are in fact doing anything bad using the committee, which they are not, you see.

Mr. WILLIS. Well, my dear lady, it just “ain’t” done that way.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. What isn’t? You mean I wouldn’t see it? I don’t understand.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, you just told me a few minutes ago that you were aware of the fact that the State Department denied Dr. Miller a passport to go to Cuba on behalf of the committee.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But lots of people are denied, as far as I have heard.

Mr. SCHERER. Yet you were willing to participate in a venture which would circumvent the action of your Government in denying him a passport. That is obvious. His going to Cuba.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. In what way? I never sponsored anything that he should go illegally.

Mr. SCHERER. Oh, you said it was a vacation to Mexico.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. He went on vacation to Mexico. This is what I know. I did not circumvent, did not plot, did not intrigue, did not aid and abet. All I know, he said he was going to Mexico. I said happy landings. That is all. But don’t impute me with intrigues I have no knowledge of. It makes me sad.

Mr. NITTLE. Referring back again to the ticket purchased by Dr. Miller from Air France: his itinerary was indicated as to Mexico City, and by Air France, at his choice as to time, to travel from Mexico City to Los Angeles, Calif., and thence to Idlewild.

Can you tell us whether Dr. Miller, after his visit to Mexico, at a subsequent time in the course of that excursion beyond the limits of the United States, did in fact visit the Los Angeles leadership of Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. May I say this. I don't know if it will meet with my counsel's approval. But inasmuch as you are going to interview Dr. Miller, and he can answer these questions directly—why should I be responsible for his actions?

Mr. NITTLE. Will you tell us where Dr. Miller is? Do you know where Dr. Miller is?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. At this moment, no, sir.

Mr. NITTLE. We have tried to subpoena him. He has disappeared.

Mr. MOULDER. Counsel just asked you whether he did make contact with the Los Angeles committee.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I think he went to Los Angeles. I think so. I don't have exact record of things in my mind.

Mr. NITTLE. Was he on the business of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, not as an official delegate or representative. If he knew that this group was being formed, and he might have seen these people, that is possible. But I don't know the details.

Mr. BRUCE. Did he or did he not, to your knowledge?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Meet with the people there? I think he might have.

Mr. BRUCE. Do you know that he did?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, I wasn't there.

Mr. BRUCE. Did he tell you that he did?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I give you my word of honor that I am not absolutely sure. I can look up in my memory or my records and tell you then. I think he might have told me he did. I never thought of it as anything suspicious. So I didn't make a special—you know, didn't make a special mental note.

He probably did. I didn't see anything wrong in it.

Mr. SCHERER. Did he tell you that while he was in Mexico City and before he went to Los Angeles with his open-end ticket that he had taken a trip over to Havana?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. SCHERER. He did not tell you that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No such thing.

Mr. SCHERER. Did he tell you he went to Los Angeles?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. He told me, I think, he went to Los Angeles.

Mr. SCHERER. Can you tell us where Dr. Miller is, why he is evading the subpoena?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. As far as I know, he isn't evading anything. He was at the office last Thursday, I think it was. He might have gone away for the weekend or something. From what I know of Dr. Miller, he wouldn't have evaded anything.

Mr. MOULDER. What is the question you are pursuing about the visit in Los Angeles?

Mr. NITTLE. Whether the witness was aware of that.

Mr. MOULDER. She has answered. Are you going on further?

Mr. NITTLE. Now, I hand you a copy of a letter marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 14-A, dated March 21, 1962, addressed to "Dear Mellita [sic] and Dr. Miller:" signed by Dr. Martha Frayde. And I ask you whether you have received that letter, the original of that letter?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir. I recognize this letter.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 14-A" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 14-A

Rough translation from
the Spanish

Letter from Dr. M. Frayde to
M. del Villar and Dr. Louis Miller

*Please
NOTE P.S.*

March 21, 1962

Dear Mellita (sic) and Dr. Miller:

I hereby acknowledge your letter of March 8 of this year, and wish to thank you in behalf of the Hospital Nacional as well as in my own behalf for the shipment of medications received, corresponding to the list numbered by you as 62-2, dated January 30, 1962. I attach our own receipt in which we have made an exact listing of the medications received, which correspond to our requests, confirmed by the signature of the Chief of Pharmacy of the Hospital Nacional and including the date it was received.

Concerning List No. 62-3, I would like to mention that, inasmuch as I was absent from the Hospital for a period of 42 days (during the months of December and January), I am not informed as to that list, nor have I been able to find out who sent it -- all I know is that we have no record of it in our files. List No. 62-4, however, does correspond to our request of the urgent needs of this Hospital. For this latter list we acknowledge full responsibility.

A posteriori, a telegram dated March 16, 1962, was received. In this telegram you indicated the possibility of sending us replacement parts for the hospital. We are enclosing a list of such items as would be needed by the Central Sterilization Department, General Laboratory Equipment, and X-Rays -- these items, as the American manufacturers themselves suggest are the least, the minimum required replacement parts that should be at hand to insure uninterrupted functioning in case of breakage. Breakage of parts would paralyze function and this should not be allowed to happen.

We should like to state that we acknowledge full responsibility for the requests sent to you for the needs of this Hospital, although in the case of certain pediatric medications, we have forwarded them to "William Soler Children's Hospital," whose Director, Dr. Daniel Alonso, sends you their deep gratitude. The same applies to the item POLYBRENE which we forwarded to "Hospital Comandante Fajardo," where they perform cardiovascular surgery.

Having read about your recent events in the Cuban press, I wish to send you my heartiest congratulations for the tremendous program your Committee is carrying out.

Regarding subscription to "American Heart Association of Cardiovascular Disease," we shall let you know the moment it begins to arrive.

For the benefit of all concerned, may I wish you the greatest success in reaching the goal you have set for yourselves for 1962.

I send my affectionate greetings.

(signed) Dra. Martha Frayde,
Director,
Hospital Nacional, Havana

P. S. I have just received Dr. Miller's letter dated 16 March, in which he tells me about his efforts to acquire permission from the State Department of the United States to visit Cuba in order to advance and coordinate the medical aid which the Committee is carrying out as a humanitarian deed in behalf of the people of Cuba. If Dr. Miller succeeds in getting such permission, we shall be very happy to have him here as our guest and collaborate with him in every way.

Once more, please let me congratulate the Committee for the for the beautiful affair which took place at Palm Gardens.

Cordially,

(signed)
Dr. Martha Frayde

Mr. MOULDER. You did receive the original of that letter?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. I have copies of it for public use, you know. We made mimeographed copies of this. So everybody has seen it.

Mr. NITTLE. Yes. Now, may I have that back for a moment?

In this letter, reference is made to list numbered 62-3. Dr. Frayde writes:

Concerning List No. 62-3, I would like to mention that, inasmuch as I was absent from the Hospital for a period of 42 days (during the months of December and January), I am not informed as to that list, nor have I been able to find out who sent it—all I know is that we have no record of it in our files.

What was contained in List No. 62-3?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know.

Do you know what the numberings mean?

Mr. NITTLE. I take it, Mrs. del Villar, that you are neither consulted nor do you participate in the preparation of the items of equipment that are acquired by Dr. Louis Miller with the funds of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee for transmittal to Cuba. Is that right?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't understand. I am getting tired, you know.

Mr. MOULDER. To whom was it addressed?

Mr. NITTLE. It is an organization that operates under the Ministry of Public Health, Republic of Cuba. It was addressed to "Dear Melita and Dr. Miller."

Mr. MOULDER. To both of them?

Mr. NITTLE. Yes, sir.

Mr. MOULDER. Does she know what that has reference to?

Mr. WILLIS. She was asked to explain what the 62-something means.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. When we started, we didn't know exactly what to send. We would send things in general. But we wanted specific

knowledge of the more needed medicines. So we wrote in to the National Hospital, as an authoritative place that would be aware of these needs, and said, "We are forming for this purpose; and would you let us know the most urgent medicines you need?"

Then as the list of medicines would arrive, for purposes of clarification, we would write the year "62" and List No. 1, the year "62," List No. 2, which would make it easy for cross reference, you see.

Now, occasionally, independent doctors, hearing of our work, would write in and send us their own list or their own private need of medicines, and we tried to keep these in the hospital separate.

But it is possible that through some clerical mistake a separate list not of the hospital would go in, with card 62-3 or 62-4. But generally they are all concerned with the hospital needs.

That is the list. Now, I don't remember the specific list, but it is possible, if Dr. Frayde didn't see it, it might have been that we referred to this list, although it didn't come from the hospital. It might have come from a doctor.

Mr. MOULDER. What is that number?

Mr. NITTLE. 62-3.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It might have been from some dental list. I don't remember.

Mr. NITTLE. Why would Dr. Frayde, in this communication to you and Dr. Miller, be so concerned as to be specific about the number of days of her absence?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, because—

Mr. NITTLE. She said she had been absent from the hospital for a period of 42 days.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That was her own volunteering information. We didn't request this.

What happens is that we have tried, we have made an effort, to work it out efficiently, and we demand quick answers. Well, you know, I don't want to disparage my Latin temperament—we are not always as fast as we are accustomed, here. And it is possible we might have pressured her, I don't remember, and she might have apologized, and, "Look, these people are giving us these things; the least I can do is explain."

Mr. NITTLE. I am inquiring whether it was not sufficient for Dr. Frayde simply to say, "I have been absent from the hospital in December and January." Why the number "42"?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know. I can't dictate to her. I didn't dictate the letter. I only received it.

Mr. NITTLE. Now, let me also ask you this question. Have you made application for a special export license relating to certain equipment to be sent to Cuba, not classified as medicines?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We inquired. We inquired about some parts for X-ray equipment and things like that.

Mr. NITTLE. Yes. You made application on March 5, 1962, to the Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C., requesting the privilege of sending electronic equipment to Cuba. This is del Villar Exhibit No. 15.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, it must be equipment. You see, that is technical. I don't know the specifications.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you make that application?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, we inquired.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 15" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 15

MEDICAL AID TO CUBA
COMMITTEE

147 WEST 33RD STREET (PENN ARCADE) NEW YORK 1, NEW YORK
(ROOM #409)

TELEPHONE: LACKAWANNA 4-0729

100

Sponsors in Formation:

FREDA KIRCHWEY
Editor

WARREN MILLER Department of Commerce
Author Foreign Trade Division
JAMES O'CONNOR Washington, D. C.
Economist

WILLIAM WORTHY
Journalist

March 5, 1962

Dear Sirs:
Our Committee, a humanitarian, non-political organization, is engaged in sending medical aid for the relief of the Cuban people, channeled through the Hospital Nacional in Havana, Cuba.

We recently received a request from the Director of this Hospital, Dr. Martha Frayde, including a list of replacements parts for various types of hospital equipment, all of which is of American manufacture and for which parts can be obtained only in the United States. In attempting to make purchase of some of these parts, we find that some firms are questioning the scope of our government's declared policy in permitting shipments of necessary medical aid, such as the Cuban people may require.

Some of the items in short supply at Hospital Nacional, and presumably other similar institutions, consist of:

- ✓ Coolidge tubes and other essential parts for x-ray machines for diagnostic use
- ✓ Replacement parts for electrocardiograph and encephalograph machines, etc.
- ✓ Bulbs and other parts for lighting apparatus, such as Otoscopes, 91524
- ✓ Cylinders, Proctoscopes, etc.
- ✓ Laboratory apparatus for diagnostic purposes and parts for same
- ✓ which would correspond with your Department's Commodity No. 91966

Our Committee naturally assumes that such items as the above are fully within the scope of the Administration's statement of exemptions to the general existing embargo on trade with Cuba. We would like a clarification on this matter in order to guide us in our efforts in supplying shortages of these critically needed items for medical aid.

Our Committee is familiar with the regulations governing exports and are complying with their requirements.

Considering the urgency of the situation, we would appreciate a prompt reply. With many thanks for your cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,
Melita del Villar
Mrs. M. del Villar
Chairman

W/se

Mr. NITTLE. Who suggested to you that electronic equipment was required in Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, we received requests from the hospital, and there are some parts of diagnostic equipment that have this category, you see.

Mr. WILLIS. In other words, as far as you know.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Absolutely.

Mr. WILLIS. Everything you requested in the shape of an export license had to do with medical treatment? That is your position?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Absolutely. Diagnostic equipment. But, you see, we never proceeded with it, because, one, it was very complicated, the mechanics of it, and also, we just didn't have enough money. So it all went into medicines, and the medicines were pressing, you see.

Mr. NITTLE. In a letter of March 12, 1962, from the Office of Export Control of the Department of Commerce, you were refused an export license to deliver to Cuba electron tubes, were you not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I think you have the evidence. That must be so, yes. So that means we didn't send it. We didn't do any more.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 15-A" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 15-A

OFFICE OF EXPORT CONTROL

MAR 12 1962

TJ40-VEM

Mrs. M. del Villar, Chairman
Medical Aid to Cuba Committee
147 West 33rd Street
New York 1, New York

Dear Mrs. del Villar:

Thank you for your letter of March 5, giving us the opportunity of clarifying our licensing policy to Cuba insofar as the medical instruments and equipment you listed are concerned.

This will confirm that general license GCU may be used for the first two items you listed, i.e.

Coolidge tubes and other essential parts for X-ray
machines for diagnostic use
Replacement parts for electrocardiograph and
encephalograph machines, etc.

These two items are covered by the entry under Schedule B commodity classification number 91574 on the GCU list. However, general license GCU may not be used for any electron tubes that may be included in such equipment.

The other equipment you listed: bulbs and other parts for lighting apparatus, and laboratory apparatus for diagnostic purposes, are not exportable to Cuba under general license. Although our licensing policy with respect to exports to Cuba is one of a general embargo, nevertheless you may wish to submit an application for an export license to cover the non-GCU equipment, requesting that consideration be given in the light of the humanitarian aspect involved. The applications should specify the equipment by name, include manufacturers' catalogs or other descriptive literature, and a list of representative users of the equipment.

Several sets of the required export license application forms are enclosed for your convenience. The Department of Commerce field office in New York City (61st Floor Empire State Building, Phone LO. 3-3377) will be glad to assist you in assuring that it is properly filled out.

Sincerely yours,

Jeraldine S. DePuy, Director
Operations Division

Enclosures

MR. NITTLE. Can you tell us whether, to your knowledge, any supplies have been acquired by the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, other than medical supplies, for transmission to Cuba?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. No. To my knowledge, only medical supplies and some dental equipment, or things like plastic polyethylene tubing or things that have to do with cardiac surgery. That sort of thing. That is to my knowledge.

MR. NITTLE. How much money was expended by the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee for medical supplies since October 1961?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. I should know this, shouldn't I?

I can only deduce, because I really don't remember the figures, I would have to look them up. But I would say the majority.

I could only put it this way. When we made the last reckoning of our expenses, and so forth, we figured we spent 14 cents for operation and the rest for medical supplies, out of a dollar. So if you are a good mathematician, you can figure the proportion, you know. But a large majority is for medicines.

MR. NITTLE. Who made the purchases on behalf of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee within the United States?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Dr. Miller.

MR. NITTLE. Do you know the persons from whom he acquired supplies of any kind?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. No, I don't have that direct contact with this.

MR. NITTLE. You do not have direct contact with what?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. With the shopping, with the purchasing.

MR. NITTLE. You do not have any contact with that at all?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. With the purchasing, no.

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

MRS. DEL VILLAR. But everything, I must say—we have the bills, and everything is bona fide, nothing casual.

MR. NITTLE. We are inquiring into that and trying to determine whether that is so. It is evident that it is your belief that this is bona fide.

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Absolutely.

MR. NITTLE. But you are speaking for yourself?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Well, I am speaking for myself and the committee.

MR. NITTLE. You cannot speak for Dr. Louis Miller?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Well, I can speak for Dr. Louis Miller to the degree that I have seen the medicines. I have seen the boxes. I have seen the shipments. And I have seen the bills.

MR. SCHERER. Did they ship the medicines to your office? Do they not ship those directly to the supply house?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. We wish they would. It would save us a lot of headaches.

MR. SCHERER. They bring them all to your office?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. No. It varies. Mostly at our office. Dr. Miller orders them and they come to our office for the most part. Other times, they are stored at his office, and then we bring them to our office. It is all very cumbersome and hard work.

MR. SCHERER. Some are stored at his office?

MRS. DEL VILLAR. Yes, which I have seen and checked with the bills.

MR. SCHERER. You do not know always what is in the boxes, though, do you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, yes. And the customs inspectors take care of that. So it is all with declarations, you know, declaration forms and shippers' declarations and a thousand and one details, you know.

I think I should go back to singing.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you say some of the supplies were stored in the office of Dr. Miller?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. They have been at some time or other, and I have seen the things.

Mr. NITTLE. Where is his office located?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Was. Used to be. Not any more.

Mr. NITTLE. What do you mean, "used to be"?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, I think he closed their office.

Mr. NITTLE. Where was the office that you believe he closed?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Do you remember? 400, isn't it?

Mr. WILLIS. Can we move on to other things in less detail? We have other witnesses.

Mr. NITTLE. We would like to inquire with respect to other persons who are believed to be active in your organization.

Referring again to the *National Guardian*, issue of February 19, 1962, del Villar Exhibit No. 1 (see pp. 1854, 1855), which related the formation of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, Jesse Gordon is named as the committee's information director. Does he hold that office in your committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, he does not. He doesn't any more, no.

Mr. NITTLE. When did he cease holding that office?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, I don't know. By kind of inertia he has been busy and couldn't come around and so on, and so we did it ourselves.

Mr. NITTLE. What is his occupation?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. A journalist, I think.

Mr. NITTLE. By whom is he employed?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, gee, I don't know.

Mr. NITTLE. You do not know by whom he is employed?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Wait a moment. I think he works at *The Nation*. I think.

Mr. NITTLE. *The Nation* magazine?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I think so.

Mr. NITTLE. How long did he serve in the position of information director for the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, you see, our tenure in this case doesn't apply, because he just came a few times, did just a few releases, and that is all.

Mr. NITTLE. He volunteered his services to you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Everything is volunteer, absolutely.

Mr. NITTLE. Do you know who sent him there, if anyone?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. Nobody.

Mr. NITTLE. How long did you know Jesse Gordon?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not long.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you know him prior to October 1961?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. Probably some months before.

Mr. NITTLE. Probably?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. NITTLE. Are you certain?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I guess so. I mean this thing is something I can't—

Mr. NITTLE. By whom was Jesse Gordon introduced to you?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. By nobody. I think I met him again in one of these—

Mr. NITTLE. It is the committee's information that George Evans of 97 Brooklyn Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y., a member of the editorial staff of the *National Guardian* in charge of promotion, has been active in the organization of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee. Would you tell us what is the extent of the activities of George Evans in the committee's affairs?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Nil.

Mr. NITTLE. Do you know George Evans?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I have met him, sure.

Mr. NITTLE. Has he performed any services for the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. He came once or twice and helped me with some mechanics at the office, you know, filing and stuff.

Mr. NITTLE. Did he assist in the organization of your office?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not really. He worked very hard, and he had no time.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you ask him to do this, or did he volunteer?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, I asked him.

Mr. NITTLE. The *National Guardian* has been cited in the publication of this committee, the *Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications*, and described as the "virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia." Do you have any knowledge of the *National Guardian* as a propaganda arm of Soviet Russia?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. I don't have any such knowledge.

Mr. NITTLE. In addition to the announced purpose of your organization, Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, to provide medical assistance to Cuba, was your organization formed for any other purpose as well?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. For instance?

Mr. NITTLE. I am asking you.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, I just can't imagine what other purpose.

Mr. NITTLE. Well, then, I will give you an example.

Was it one of your purposes to assist Castro in solidifying Communist domination of the island of Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, my gracious. No, that is already political. Our purpose, I stated over and over again, not propaganda—

Mr. NITTLE. This committee is interested in the propaganda activities of certain political organizations.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, but we don't do propaganda and we are non-political. And all we have said, over and over again—

Mr. NITTLE. I am asking you whether one of your purposes was to assist Castro in solidifying Communist domination of that island. Now, you can answer that "Yes" or "No."

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I can't. I have to say that our purpose is exclusively sending medicines for the sick, period.

Mr. SCHERER. Mr. Chairman, I ask that you direct the witness to answer.

Mr. WILLIS. She did. She said "exclusively."

Mr. NITTLE. You have been instrumental, at least, in the published expression of the purposes of your group to limit it to the alleged humanitarian purpose of furnishing medical supplies to Cuba.

I show you a letter from Dr. Martha Frayde on the letterhead of the Republic of Cuba, Ministry of Public Health, National Hospital, Havana, dated December 1, 1961, addressed to "Dear Friend."

Did you receive the original of that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. Not only that. I mimeographed it for public distribution. This is not hidden, you know.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 16" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 16

Republic of Cuba
Ministry of Public Health

NATIONAL HOSPITAL
Habana

La Habana, December 1, 1961
"YEAR OF EDUCATION"

Dear Friend:

In the name of the people of Cuba as well as in my own name as Director of the National Hospital, I wish to let you and the members of the Medical Relief for Cuba Committee know that we have received the laboratory reagents and the medicines which in such splendid and generous manner you have been kind enough to send to this Institution.

All the items received are of extreme usefulness in bringing humanitarian succour to our sick ones. Please accept once more our profound gratitude, which we send you full of emotion.

Not long after our telephone conversation, we received the last shipment, which leads me to believe that we can continue to receive such small packages without difficulty. In any case, I enclose herewith a list of the medicines most urgently needed here inasmuch as we lack them completely. I do not stipulate quantities because in all truth whatever little you can send will be of extreme usefulness--thus I leave to your own possibilities the quantities to be supplied.

We are organizing here a Committee that should have all the characteristics you indicate are preferable, so that we can have a non-political and exclusively humanitarian exchange.

I wish to add that, though I leave for Europe tomorrow on an official mission in connection with this institution, and that I shall be absent for approximately one month, you can continue to correspond in the same manner, inasmuch as the Hospital will be in charge of responsible colleagues who have followed with keen interest the aid which the Committee has offered us.

With grateful greetings from your friend,

(signed)

Dr. Martha Frayde

Mr. MOULDER. She says she received that letter. What is the question concerning the letter?

Mr. NITTLE. Dr. Frayde, in the letter, states:

We are organizing here a Committee that should have all the characteristics you indicate are preferable, so that we can have a non-political and exclusively humanitarian exchange.

What committee was Dr. Frayde organizing in Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This letter, I would like to put on the record, was made public. We mimeographed it. So you see it holds no secret?

Now, for better efficiency, we hoped that our work would expand and we would do better and we have been suggesting to Dr. Frayde, who was then director of the hospital, to please—could she organize a group of doctors who would be in charge of this distribution, not only for the hospital alone, but maybe some little rural hospital in the hinterland, that might be needing a certain medicine very badly. It would be impossible for us to correspond with whatever number of hospitals. So we suggested, "Could you have a group of doctors be in charge of this, be informed of the needs, and take care of distribution?" And she said that they were trying to do so.

I am very willing to answer, but—

Mr. NITTLE. The advertisement which appeared in the *New York Times* of November 13, 1962 (previously marked del Villar Exhibit No. 2), subscribed by your organization, indicates that you are making an appeal, really, for American dollars with which to acquire supplies here on behalf of Cuba and that the dollar supply is short there.

That is what you say, is it not? You say in the advertisement, "But since there is no trade with the United States, Cuba has no way to get U.S. dollars."

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sure.

Mr. NITTLE. Are you transmitting to Cuba, in addition to medical supplies, any cash?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, gracious, no.

Mr. NITTLE. Have you not been occupied in the past as a propagandist for the purpose of establishing or maintaining a Communist regime in Cuba?

Mr. MOULDER. Repeat the question so that she can understand it.

Mr. NITTLE. Have you not acted as a propagandist in the United States for the purpose of maintaining a Communist regime in Cuba? (Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mr. MOULDER. In view of your previous testimony, I would think we could expect a very quick answer to that question.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, sir, I have no hesitation. But you see what happens: I have openly and sincerely answered these things, and it drags on and on.

Mr. WILLIS. That is a simple question and it is a brand new topic and it is so easy. I should think it is fair to you, to give you an opportunity to answer that. I would expect your answer would have come very easy.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You see, this is a political question. I am not engaged in political activities.

Mr. WILLIS. Well, will you answer the question? You should be very grateful that it has been asked of you.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am not grateful, because I am very tired, you know.

Mr. MOULDER. You are very what?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am very tired. It has been a long session.

Mr. WILLIS. I request that a direct answer be given.

Mr. MOULDER. It is giving you a direct opportunity to cooperate on anything you have been trying to impress us with.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. What is the question?

Mr. NITTLE. Have you not been occupied as a propagandist in the United States for the purpose of maintaining a Communist regime in Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. If you are inquiring as to any activities prior to Medical Aid, I will say I have appeared and have spoken, not as a propagandist for the Communist regime in Cuba, but simply to say what I know to be true—that I knew Cuba and that I knew many things that happen in Cuba now which were beneficial to the Cuban people from my direct knowledge, whether it is called communism or Buddhist or Zendist or something else. This is not what my angle was, or my direction.

My direction had the same spiritual direction, the same inspiration, the same truth, and the same passion that I have about Medical Aid.

Now, if this is bad, I don't know.

Mr. WILLIS. Let's avoid the word "propaganda," and let's talk about the past first, and then the present.

Counsel, if I could split the question into two—and it implies nothing, so far as you are concerned—One, did you, in the past, advocate a pro-Castro regime? And if your answer is "yes," you might have conscientiously felt that way. But we owe it to you and to us to ask the question. I will say "in the past."

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am saying I, in the past, advocated the things that were happening in Cuba beneficial to the people of Cuba, whether it happened to be under Castro or somebody else.

Mr. WILLIS. We might imply more than you intend to disclose.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This, of course, I know.

Mr. WILLIS. Proceed.

Mr. NITTLE. I hand you a copy of the issue of the June 5, 1961, *National Guardian*, marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 17, and direct your attention to a notice of a meeting, appearing in the lower left-hand portion of page 10, entitled "NO INTERVENTION IN CUBA—MEETING," to be held at the Carlton Terrace in New York on June 8, 1961, at which Melitta del Villar, of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, is listed as one of the speakers.

Did you speak at that meeting?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir.

Mr. NITTLE. Are you a member or officer of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, were you a member?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. You were a member?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCHERER. You see? We almost lost that one.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But I wouldn't deny it. I am answering you the truth. I am not playing any tricks.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 17" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 17
[National Guardian, June 5, 1961, p. 10]

NO INTERVENTION IN CUBA—MEETING

CARLTON TERRACE

100th St. & Broadway

Thurs. June 8th—8 P.M.

Speakers:

JAMES O'CONNOR

Faculty, Barnard College

DR. DAVID DUBNAU

Columbia University

MELITTA DEL VILLAR

Fair Play for Cuba Comm.

JULIO MEDINA

July 26th Movement

DAVID DELANNO

Comm. for Nonviolent Action

Slides on Present-day Cuba. Adm. Bldg.

West Side Comm. for Friendly

Relations with Cuba

Mr. MOULDER. Mr. Bruce.

Mr. BRUCE. I have sat here this morning and this afternoon and I have listened to you, in reply to many questions, say that you were not the least bit interested in what you term the political.

Were you not directly dealing with the political affairs of Cuba in an appearance such as this?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Before Medical Aid was founded, yes.

Mr. BRUCE. But you expressed complete lack of concern for political affairs.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. In the past of my life, yes. But at this time, on this date of June 8, 1961, I was interested to say what I knew to be true.

Mr. BRUCE. But you testified here, in effect, that you knew nothing about what you term political affairs. And yet the record indicates that you actively participated in political affairs.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The record should show that I have said that I did not, I do not, since Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, participate in political activities and do not use Medical Aid as a political agency, and we use no propaganda. This is absolutely the truth, what I have said.

Prior to the formation of Medical Aid, I did appear in a meeting connected with Fair Play. But that was long before Medical Aid came into existence.

Mr. BRUCE. Then you would answer this question, would you not? You would not, on the basis of your past activity in political affairs, claim for yourself the position of being naive then, would you, on the political implications involved between the existing Cuban Government and the United States?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Up to 1960, I would say yes, I knew nothing.

Mr. SCHERER. What was the date of this meeting? 1961?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. 1961.

Mr. SCHERER. It was after the Bay of Pigs?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I guess so, yes.

Mr. NITTLE. June 8, 1961.

Mr. SCHERER. When did you resign from the Fair Play for Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sometime at the end of June or beginning of July.

Mr. SCHERER. 1961?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. SCHERER. Right after this appearance?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Shortly after, I guess.

Mr. SCHERER. Is that just about the time you were considering starting this Medical Aid to Cuba Committee?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, immediately at that time I didn't know there was the shortage. It was sometime after that, that I learned about it.

Mr. SCHERER. You mean that you did not know that there was a shortage of medicine in Cuba when you made that speech in June of 1961?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am quite sure I didn't. Now, if you have a recording of it, I would like to hear it. Maybe I have forgotten. But I don't have recollection of it, no.

Mr. SCHERER. Anybody that was as interested as you were—you read the papers, do you not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not too much.

Mr. MOULDER. What did advise you and inform you of this desperate need for medical supplies in Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Two things. From my mother I heard that there was shortage, and from other friends and relatives, and also from the dispatch that I told you about, that I had read, of Mr. Worthy's. These two things informed me of this.

Mr. MOULDER. Well, go ahead, Mr. Nittle.

Mr. NITTLE. I now hand you a copy of the Communist publication, *The Worker*, marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 18, dated Sunday, June 25, 1961, and direct your attention to an item entitled "What's On," which appears in the upper right-hand corner of page 11.

A July 26th dance is advertised, sponsored by the Brooklyn Fair Play for Cuba Committee. Melitta del Villar, among others, is listed as a guest of honor.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I remember that. And I also remember that I did not attend.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 18" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 18
[The Worker, Sunday, June 25, 1961, p. 11]

What's On

FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA FIESTA. Entertainment — Dancing — Refreshments. Central Plaza, 40 E. 7th St., 8:30 P.M. July 1st. Admission \$2.00.

JULY 26 DANCE. Guests of Honor: Shirley Graham, editor, Freedomways magazine; Julio Nedina, organizational secretary, 26th of July Movement; Melitta del Villar, Fair Play for Cuba Committee; Richard Gibson, acting national chairman, FPCC; Berta Green, secretary, FPCC. Entertainment—Latin American band. At the Leonardo da Vinci Hall, 350 Flatbush Ave. Ext. (opposite Paramount theater). BMT—De Kalb Ave. IRT—Nevins St. Saturday, July 22, 9 p.m. Tickets in advance only! For reservations send check or money order to Fair Play for Cuba Committee, 799 Broadway, New York 3, N. Y. Tickets \$2. Auspices: Brooklyn Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you dance on that occasion?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I did not attend.

Mr. NITTLE. You did not attend that affair at that time?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. NITTLE. I hand you a copy of the August 20, 1961, issue of *The Worker*, marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 19, and I direct your attention to an item appearing on page 7, upper right-hand portion, entitled "What's On," giving notice of a "FORUM FOR PEACE WITH CUBA," to be held August 23rd, at which Melitta del Villar is to appear, among others, as speaker, under the auspices of the "Garment Committee for a Good Neighbor Policy (Provisional)."

Did you speak on that occasion?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Let me see, and see if I can remember. Yes. Yes, sir, I did.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 19" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 19
[The Worker, Sunday, Aug. 20, 1961, p. 7]

What's On

FORUM FOR PEACE WITH CUBA,
Wed., August 23rd. 8:00 p.m. Speakers
Melitta Del Villar, John T. McManus
Hotel Cornish Arms, 311 W. 23rd St.
Contr. 40c. Garment Committee for a
Good Neighbor Policy (Provisional).

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17. THE WORKER'S
Picnic at Camp Midvale.

SATURDAY, OCT. 23—The Worker's
Annual Dinner.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you utilize your position, as chairman of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, to conduct propaganda activities on behalf of Communist revolutionary efforts in the Caribbean and Latin America?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, sir. This is before the foundation of the committee.

Mr. NITTLE. I hand you a copy of a program agenda marked for identification as del Villar Exhibit No. 20, for the period June 18 to September 3, 1962, which is a period sometime after the formation of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee.

This is issued by the World Fellowship, Conway, New Hampshire, an organization under the directorship of Dr. Willard Uphaus, which has been under investigation by the Attorney General of New Hampshire.

The program, you will note, for July 23-27, 1962, is as follows:

July 23-27—Cuba and Latin America. A study of the revolutions to the south of us, including British Guiana. Among the resource persons—Felix Cummings, representative of British Guiana's Premier Cheddi Jagan; Melitte del Villar, Chairman, Medical Aid to Cuba Committee; Richard Gibson, Acting Executive Secretary, Fair Play for Cuba Committee; Dr. Dirk J. Struik, Professor of Mathematics, Emeritus, M.I.T., and this year on the faculty of the University of Puerto Rico.

It is the committee's information, however, that you did not participate in the seminar during the week of July 23-27, as scheduled, nor did Felix Cummings, the personal representative of the Communist Cheddi Jagan, Premier of British Guiana.

It is our information that you, in fact, appeared in a week prior to that scheduled and that you spent 2 days at the camp, during the course of which you lectured and danced and sang in support of that program.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 20," follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 20

IF YOU CANNOT GO ABROAD THIS SUMMER LET US BRING THE WORLD TO YOU

at

Make
Reservation
Early

World Fellowship Center, Conway, New Hampshire
June 18 - September 3, 1962

Make
Reservation
Early

PROGRAM - IN PROCESS OF FORMATION - ASK FOR NEXT REPORT

June 18-29 - Students for Peace. A ten-day seminar for students, including guests from other lands. Recreation, work in camp; lectures and discussions; survey of present scene on the American campus and plans for action. Speakers and resource persons: Eugene Bronstein, Conrad Cohen, David McReynolds, Truman Nelson, Michael Rice, Jessie and Harvey O'Connor, and Willard Uphaus. Special rates. Write for special bulletin.

July 2-6 - Peace and Universal Human Rights. Our texts: The Bill of Rights and the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The threat of restrictive legislation such as the McCarran Act, and the danger of all thought control measures. A great week with Irving Dilliard, famed editorial writer and author; Frank J. Donner, well-known constitutional lawyer, author of "The Un-Americans"; and other leaders.

July 9-13 - Faith and Man's Destiny. Making faith relevant to the world's unsolved problems. World Fellowship will be host during this week to the Annual Conference of the Methodist Federation for Social Action. A stimulating program with - Rev. Lee H. Ball, Federation Executive Secretary; Professor Joseph F. Fletcher, Episcopal Theological Seminary, Cambridge, Mass.; Carleton Beals, speaker and writer on Cuba and Latin America; Daniel Watts, Chairman, Liberation Committee for Africa; David Wesley, York, Pa., Gazette; Rev. Loyd F. Worley, former Federation President. All World Fellowship guests invited to take part in conference sessions.

July 16-20 - What Our Neighbors Think of Us. Guests and speakers from Canada, and other neighboring countries. Special announcement to come.

July 23-27 - Cuba and Latin America. A study of the revolutions to the south of us, including British Guiana. Among the resource persons - Felix Cummings, representative of British Guiana's Premier Cheddi Jagan; Melitte delVillar, Chairman, Medical Aid to Cuba Committee; Richard Gibson, Acting Executive Secretary, Fair Play for Cuba Committee; Dr. Dirk J. Struik, Professor of Mathematics, Emeritus, M.I.T., and this year on the faculty of the University of Puerto Rico.

July 30-Aug. 3 - The United Nations, the New Nations and the Shift in Social Power in the World. Attention to crisis areas, such as Berlin and Southeast Asia. American foreign policy. Write for special bulletin.

Aug. 6-10 - The Socialist World. What is happening in industrial production, agriculture, education, health, culture, and the religious movements? Resource persons from East and West to be present. Let us know if you are interested in the details.

Aug. 13-17 - Integration - both North and South Social, economic, political, legal, religious factors. A study of action and how to take part. Among the speakers: Rev. Howard Melish, Rev. Maurice McCrackin, Carl Braden, and a representative of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

Aug. 20-24 - Towards Peace. The entire summer will have been dedicated to the peace effort, but this week will be given to a more exacting study of peace philosophy and action in the United States, and to a unification of forces. Detailed program later.

Aug. 27-31 - The American Ultra Right. The religious, social and economic factors; the threat to civil liberty and peace; foreign policy and the fall political campaign.

Sept. 1-3 - Labor and the Problem of Peace. Decline and stagnation in the labor movement. Is there a change coming; if so, what will be the causes and consequences?

WEEKLY EVENTS

Theatre night - there are two summer theatres within a few miles

Fun night - delightful programs with guest talent, including children

Picnic trips to the mountains - day-long trips, sightseeing, swimming,
picnic lunch

Sunday Evening Fellowship - Faith and Man's Destiny. What Do We Believe and Why?

WRITE TO WORLD FELLOWSHIP, CONWAY, N.H., for MORE INFORMATION -
TELL US WHEN YOU ARE COMING!

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I do not dance.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you sing?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I sang.

Mr. NITTLE. And did you lecture on the subject of Cuba and Latin America?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But mostly about medical aid. I was trying to raise funds for Medical Aid.

Mr. NITTLE. Mostly about Medical Aid to Cuba?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Right.

Mr. NITTLE. And the rest of the time?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. About the background of Medical Aid and what we had done.

Mr. NITTLE. Well, that is still on Medical Aid to Cuba.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. And I might have talked about my own experiences in Cuba, my knowledge of Cuba, my background, and things like that.

Mr. WILLIS. Well, now, what would that be? Will you not tell us?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, I can, certainly—What I know of Cuba. When I was a youth, a country that I was always very much ashamed of. And I never wanted to admit that I was Cuban. I would say I was Spanish as a device to avoid being questioned on Cuba, because Cuba to me represented the height of corruption and immorality, where the girls who had any teeth at the age of 14 would have to become prostitutes and where the only thing that was successful and recognized was theft and pillage, bribery, and corruption.

There are exceptions. I am making a general view.

Mr. SCHERER. You are making a pretty serious charge against the Cuban people.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not against the Cuban people. The Cuban people for the most part, three out of five, could not read and write. Three out of five had no floors in their houses. A large majority, 90 percent of the peasant population, had no electric light and even the most elementary sanitary facilities.

This is what I knew about Cuba. This is what I told the people.

Mr. SCHERER. I may be wrong—

Mr. WILLIS. Let her proceed, please. I asked the question, and she is entitled to answer it.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This is what I told them and this is what I knew about Cuba.

Mr. WILLIS. And did you tell them, did you feel, that these things having occurred under Batista, for a while, at least—I am giving you a chance to apparently carry out your humanitarian motives—you thought they might have been better under Castro? Would you talk about that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes.

Mr. WILLIS. This is why I asked, a while ago, to give you an opportunity.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But that is a different way of the question, you see.

Mr. WILLIS. I asked you: Were you for a time in the past pro-Castro?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is not it. That is not the question.

Please, I beg you in all humanity, not to use devices to trip me, because I am not equipped to handle it. I am telling you the truth as I know it.

Mr. WILLIS. I would not do that. I thought it was being kind to you to ask you the question. But apparently, and as I say, I am afraid you implied more than what was on your mind.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, you know, there is so much of hostility and negative and suspicion and all that sort of thing, that it is so terrible; and, actually, all I am saying is that what I saw and what I knew as a youth was something that made me always ashamed, even though I was not downtrodden and even though I was not the underdog—I always felt a sense of shame and disgust at this kind of affair.

And I also know that much of this had disappeared and that people had houses and people had toilets and people had some electric light and people were beginning to have some means of education and things that I considered important.

Mr. MOULDER. I would say, from what I have been informed, the conditions you described in Cuba certainly did exist. Certainly I do not think any member of the committee would dispute that.

But when did you have an opportunity to go back to Cuba to observe any changes from the conditions that were deplorable that you describe?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I went to Cuba to visit my mother in August or September of 1960, a good many months before the travel ban, when it was still permitted to go to Cuba. And I went to visit my mother. And then I had, as a part of being there—I saw what had been done.

Mr. SCHERER. Will you yield?

Mr. WILLIS. No. I asked a while ago to be able to split the question into two parts. That is the first part of my question.

Now, the second part is—and I am not trying to probe your philosophy or your politics, but you did portray a picture from personal experience. And let's assume that all you say comes from the heart. I am willing to accept that until and if there is evidence to the contrary.

This was in 1960 that you saw a change. Apparently, you became attached to, enamoured of, or had a kind of feeling toward, the regime. Now, has that feeling persisted?

I do not want to say: Are you pro-Castro? Let's use something else: Has anything happened since that time to make you believe otherwise?

And I am not going to press it if you do not want to answer it frankly; but I think you owe it to yourself, in view of all you have said, and because that comes down to the committee you are now associated with.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It does not. I will tell you why.

I have told you repeatedly, and the record can prove it, that I have not engaged in any propaganda using the committee as a vehicle.

Mr. WILLIS. May I interrupt you, there?

You have used that expression time and time again, that you "have not used the committee for propaganda purposes." So it seems to me you appear before us, unless you explain it, in a dual capacity. You

have your own sympathetic feeling about the political end of it, which apparently is sympathetic to, let us face it, the present Castro regime. Yet, having that feeling, in another capacity, as a humanitarian, you do not reflect it in your work.

That is the impression I get. Whether a person is capable of doing that, I do not know.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The thing is, you see, that I don't think that my political beliefs are a question for debate, because I assume the committee has respect for beliefs, whether they are political or religious, especially if a person is not doing sabotage or doing anything harmful or destructive.

So what I believe in the privacy of my heart I think everybody is entitled to have, and as a Congressman I think you will uphold this more than anyone else.

Mr. WILLIS. I said I will not press it. But I think it is an awful burden on one's self. Apparently you do believe in the regime going on, and then as a humanitarian send aid, and not to feel in your heart that you are really aiding the regime.

Mr. SCHERER. This morning I asked you when you came to the United States and I do not recall your answer, but sometime in 1933. That is almost 30 years ago.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is right.

Mr. SCHERER. That was the time of your marriage, was it not?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is right.

Mr. SCHERER. And I asked you how many times you had been back to Cuba, and you said once.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Or twice. I said both.

Mr. SCHERER. I thought you said once.

I remember your mother came here to visit you, you said, rather than you going there.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Right.

Mr. SCHERER. Batista was not in power in 1930, was he?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. It was Machado, another peach, exactly like Batista.

Mr. SCHERER. So you have been back once or twice. You cannot remember whether it was once or twice?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, no. Twice. I was once in 1950 and once in 1960.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, my recollection of your testimony was that you were back once to see your mother and that other times she came here to see you.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, no. I said once or twice, and the rest is correct.

Mr. SCHERER. How long were you there in 1960?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Which time?

Mr. SCHERER. In 1960.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I came there sometime in July and I returned back here sometime in September, early September.

Mr. SCHERER. Now, all of us abhor the Batista regime as much as you do.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I am glad.

Mr. SCHERER. But under the Batista regime, I happened to have been in Cuba. I happened to be a member of the Public Works Committee. I went to a highway conference in Cuba. And at that time, I saw some of these things under the Batista regime taking place. I saw the new highways, the new buildings, the new public housing, long before Castro came.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, there were a few more built since then.

Mr. SCHERER. Oh, I am saying we all abhor Batista, but I was there when Batista was still in power, when Castro was still out in the hills. So these things that you say you saw in 1960—and I was there before 1960—were taking place in Cuba long before Dr. Castro came out of the hills, because I saw them with my own eyes. I was there for that purpose.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Sure.

Mr. MOULDER. Mr. Bruce?

Mr. BRUCE. Your distress on the humanitarian feelings that you have exhibited here is noteworthy.

One of the common cries in Cuba over the past year or so has been, "To the wall." How does this practice of the Castro regime of the shooting of hundreds of people, with what are obviously typical Communist mock trials—how does this square with this feeling of humanitarianism and improvement of the lot of the people?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. You know, sir, I would like very much to discuss that and many other things with you, but in all fairness to me, and in all fairness to you, this is something outside of our discussion. This already becomes my opinions on the subject of their behavior. And I don't think this is fair.

Mr. BRUCE. Well, the opinions that you expressed justifying your opinions earlier fall in the same category, and you had no reluctance whatsoever to describing that.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But, sir, there are lots of injustices being perpetrated right in our country. And that doesn't mean I don't uphold the good things we do.

Mr. BRUCE. That is again a diversion away from the question I asked you.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. If we want to discuss my opinions on the subject of Cuba, I will be glad to do so, but not as part of this inquiry.

Mr. BRUCE. Only as part of what you have already testified, that you felt this was an improvement, that the present regime has a more humanitarian approach to the people. And I am trying to find out how you square that with the practice of "To the wall with those that disagree."

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Well, I don't know about that, you see.

Mr. BRUCE. You do not know about that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. BRUCE. You have not heard about that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Oh, yes, I have heard about it. But I don't know about it.

Mr. MOULDER. All right. It is almost quarter to four. I wonder if we can proceed.

Are you about through?

Let us continue then, and finish.

Mr. NITTLE. I believe that a moment ago you indicated there was a great deal of criticism and hostility in the world, which you seemed to deplore. Is that right?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is right.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you yourself engage in agitational activities directed toward Latin American residents of the United States?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No, because I am not an agitational speaker.

Mr. NITTLE. Now let me hand you a copy of an excerpt from the *National Guardian*, dated October 22, 1962. I direct your attention to an advertisement which appears at the lower left-hand corner of page 21.

The advertisement indicates that a protest meeting will be held Sunday, October 21, 1962, at the Hotel New Yorker, under the auspices of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, a Communist-front organization, at which a Melitta del Villar, among others, is to be heard on the subject, "Mounting terrorism and violence directed toward Latin-Americans in the United States."

Are you the Melitta del Villar therein referred to?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 21" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT NO. 21

[National Guardian, Oct. 22, 1962, p. 21]

STOP VIGILANTISM in NEW YORK PROTEST MEETING

against mounting terrorism and violence directed toward Latin-Americans in the United States. Learn your civil rights and how you can protect yourself.

HEAR:

- HON. HUBERT T. DELANEY • HON. MARK LANE
- SRA MELITTA DEL VILLAR • MR. CYRIL PHILIP

SEE:

Actual pictures illustrating violence in New York.
Showing begins promptly at 2:30.

SUN., OCT 21

2:30 P.M.

HOTEL NEW YORKER, 34th St. at 8th Avenue

Contribution 99c

AUSPICES: Emergency Civil Liberties Committee

421 Seventh Avenue

New York 1, N.Y.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you address the group at the Hotel New Yorker on the subject of "Mounting terrorism and violence directed toward Latin-Americans in the United States"?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. It was composed of largely North Americans, not Latin Americans, actually.

Mr. NITTLE. It is the committee's information that a Celia Saperstein has received from you certain funds of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee. Investigations by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee held in 1953, relating to activities of United States citizens employed by the United Nations, indicate that Celia Saperstein was one of several United Nations employees discharged by the Secretary General after his investigation of persons engaged in activities regarded as disloyal by the host country.

Did you pass funds of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee to Celia Saperstein?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't have any recollection of doing that, no.

Mr. NITTLE. I show you a copy of a check of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, which was stamped paid by the bank upon which drawn, the Chemical Bank New York Trust Company, and drawn by Melitta del Villar and Sidney J. Gluck, with the notation appearing, "Advance to Camp Midvall¹ party Aug. 11," endorsed by Celia Saperstein.

Does that refresh your recollection?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. Now I know what you mean.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 22" follows:)

¹ This is a reference to Camp Midvale in New Jersey.

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 22

MEDICAL AID TO CUBA COMMITTEE

147 WEST 33RD ST. SUITE 409
NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

No.

1-12

AY
TO THE
ORDER OF

卷之四

11. 15. 1971
RUST COMPANY

5217710

AUGUST 1955, 2ND TO CUBA COMMITTEE

CHEMICAL BANK NEW YORK TRUST COMPANY

33RD STREET & 7TH AVENUE
(PENNSYLVANIA STATION)
NEW YORK

12

011800 920 2100 0120 10

Make payable
to Chase National
Bank
Wm. Ferguson

27 CHASE MANHATTAN BANK
FUND ST. BAY OF AMERICAS 22

5

—

205 10.62 1187.02

— 114 —

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3

Mr. NITTLE. Do you know Celia Saperstein?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. I remember, now. Celia Saperstein tried to arrange some kind of a private gathering in that area. I have never been there. I don't know the camp. I never had heard about it until recently.

And she needed funds to buy paper cups and buy other things to plan the party to raise funds for Medical Aid. And we participated in this for her, and it was later refunded for us, because she couldn't take it out of her pocket. She is not a wealthy woman.

We advanced the funds and then we got them back.

Mr. NITTLE. "We" advanced the funds? Who advanced the funds to Celia Saperstein?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Mr. Gluck and me. And they were returned.

Mr. NITTLE. The committee's investigation discloses that you have established a contact with a W. Davidson, of London, England. We are interested in knowing: Who is W. Davidson?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know.

Mr. MOULDER. What was your question?

Mr. NITTLE. Who is W. Davidson?

Mr. WILLIS. But you said we had information. She is entitled to know.

Mr. NITTLE. We have a record of a telephone contact between the Medical Aid to Cuba headquarters and W. Davidson, of London, England. Do you have any knowledge of that call?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No.

Mr. NITTLE. And you do not know who W. Davidson is?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We have never made a London call, to my knowledge.

Mr. NITTLE. That is, to your knowledge?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. It could be a mistake of the telephone company, because we were once charged for a call from Minneapolis that we hadn't made, you know.

Mr. SCHERER. It might have been the good doctor that made the call, or somebody else.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I have been there most of the time in the office, and generally the doctor does not do things like that without asking, you know, because I am very strict and stingy about the funds.

Mr. WILLIS. She does not know. Proceed.

Mr. SCHERER. Wait a minute. Why did you pay the bill, then?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. We haven't paid such a bill. I haven't seen such a thing.

Mr. NITTLE. The committee's investigation also discloses that a message emanated from the headquarters of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, signed by an individual described as Pat O'Morte.

Who is Pat O'Morte?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This is some kind of amusing or something. I don't think it is anything special.

Mr. NITTLE. It is hardly amusing, because it is a telegram, a copy of which the committee has, and which I will exhibit to you. It bears the name, "Mrs. Amster"; signature, "Pat O'Morte"; subscriber, "Albert S. Baker."

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is all right. It is something—I think it was some kind of a celebration, a birthday party or something, of Mr. Baker, and we sent him this telegram for fun, or something like that.

(Document marked "del Villar Exhibit No. 23" follows:)

DEL VILLAR EXHIBIT No. 23

TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY TELEPHONE		S S E	
MRS BERTHA FRIEDMAN		DATE 221 FEB 23 63 ⁵¹	
DLR 1MMY 100 LASALLE ST		CHECK 5-20 14 PD	
XXXXXXXIXXIXXIXXIXX		LAX 0729	
ALL		DEATH	
OUR TOAST TO REBECCA /THE CHICKS , THEREPATIENT		NYC 7 GP	
HUSBANDS AND SILENT PARTNER LOVE		SIGNATURE	
EOD		PAT O'MORTE	
SKLETON IN FILE		DUB	
DATE		ALBERT S BAKER	
CFLK			
MRS A. AUSTER			

WU 550 (1-52)

Mr. NITTLE. This is not addressed to Mr. Baker.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. But I think it was for Mr. Baker's celebration. It was something like that.

Mr. NITTLE. Can you tell us who Pat O'Morte is?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Myself.

Mr. NITTLE. Yourself?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes. That was a fun message.¹

Mr. SCHERER. Did you not just tell us you did not know who she was? Just a few minutes ago, did you not say you never heard of that person?

Mr. WILLIS. She did say it was for fun.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I know what it was. They were having a stag dinner or a women's dinner, and I think it was some birthday party. And I thought since he had worked so hard with us and helped us so much—I sent him that message. I didn't know everything I did was going to be considered bad.

"Our toast to Rebecca, all the chicks there," something, "patient husbands and silent partner. Love, Pat O'Morte."

¹ *Patria o Muerte* (Homeland or Death) together with *Venceremos* (We Shall Conquer) are two of Castro Cuba's most common slogans. Such phrases frequently appear, for example, in correspondence and other communications.

Mr. MOULDER. A toast to all the chickens?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, some foolish thing, because they were all elderly. So I called them "chicks," for fun. Gee whiz!

Mr. NITTLE. Investigation of the committee further discloses that a telephone call was made from your unlisted telephone number to a Charles S. Flato, of Truro, Massachusetts.

Do you know Charles S. Flato?

Mr. MOULDER. Can you give her any more information on it?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Will you tell me what context?

Mr. NITTLE. I am simply asking whether you know Charles S. Flato.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. This name has nothing to do with the committee, not even remotely, not even remotely.

Mr. NITTLE. Do you know Charles S. Flato?

(Witness conferred with counsel.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I have met the gentleman.

Mr. MOULDER. Then you do know him?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I have met him. I don't know him.

Mr. MOULDER. Well, that is what he means by that.

Mr. NITTLE. It is the committee's information that Charles S. Flato was an employee of the U.S. Government during the period 1934 to 1945. He was last employed as a senior information specialist for the Foreign Economic Administration, then later transferred to the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion. He was finally rated ineligible by the Civil Service Commission on loyalty grounds, and instructions were issued for his removal on April 23, 1945.

Charles S. Flato appeared in hearings before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, during the course of which he invoked the fifth amendment as a basis for refusal to answer questions, particularly relating to his Communist Party membership.

Mr. MOULDER. Do you want to make any explanation as to how you happened to meet him, or make any explanation whatsoever other than that you met him?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. No. I met him. It might have been at one of the places I spoke. Or I don't remember, really. I really don't know him at all. I just know that he is a little—he is is crippled, you know. And he seemed like a nice man.

Mr. NITTLE. One final question.

You issued a check to yourself on August 20, 1962, or August 23, 1962, on the funds of the Medical Aid to Cuba Committee, in the sum of \$200, to attend the Pan American Medical Congress.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. That is correct.

Mr. NITTLE. When and where was that held?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. In Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Mr. NITTLE. Did you attend that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, sir.

Mr. MOULDER. Do you want to tell us what your functions and purposes were in attending that?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, Mr. Moulder. The Pan American Health Organization, which is a branch of the new World Health Organization, meets every so many years to congregate doctors from all over Pan America and this hemisphere, Canada, I think, too; and they meet to discuss medical matters among all the other countries.

So we thought at the committee that it would be a good idea, since we had not been able to go to Cuba to get direct information there,

to meet the Cuban delegation that was going to be there and get from the horse's mouth, so to speak, some information about specifications and catalog numbers of medicines and position in ordering, what our requirements here were, so that they can understand how they happened to send us the receipts, so that we have the thing correctly, and so on, technical matters.

Mr. MOULDER. Whom did you meet from Cuba there?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. The various doctors who came in the delegation. There were, I think, three or four.

Mr. MOULDER. Are there any questions? Mr. Scherer, any additional questions?

Mr. SCHERER. Who is Bertha Friedman?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Not a member of the committee.

Mr. SCHERER. Who is she?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know. She is not a member of the committee.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, she is the woman, may I point out to you, to whom you sent this so-called funny telegram.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. It was an acquaintance of mine, and she had the party for Mr. Baker.

Mr. SCHERER. Mr. Reporter, will you read back the witness' answer to my first question, "Who is Bertha Friedman?" Read that answer. (The answer referred to was read by the reporter.)

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. I don't know her well.

Mr. SCHERER. You wanted to leave the impression when I asked you about her, by the answers to the first two questions, that you did not know this woman.

Now wait a minute.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. As a member of the committee.

Mr. SCHERER. All right. We heard the answer.

And when I said, "Well, she is the woman to whom you sent this telegram," you replied, "It was an acquaintance of mine."

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Yes, I recollected the two. I don't know her that well.

Mr. SCHERER. You do not know her that well, but you sent her this funny telegram, "Our toast to Rebecca, all the chicks there, patient husbands and silent partner. Love, Pat O'Morte."

And you said that Pat O'Morte was you. What does that mean, Pat O'Morte?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Nothing.

Mr. SCHERER. Well, morte in Latin means what?

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Death. Well, that is just fooling, because sometimes they say that I am somber, and it was just a play of words.

Mr. SCHERER. All right.

Mr. MOULDER. Mr. Bruce, any questions?

Mr. BRUCE. No, sir.

Mr. MOULDER. That will be all.

Will you recall her at any time? Do you wish her to return?

Mr. NITTLE. I do not think so, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MOULDER. Then you may see the clerk about your witness fees.

Mrs. DEL VILLAR. Good afternoon.

(At this point the witness was excused.)

(The testimony of Sidney J. Gluck and Albert S. Baker, two witnesses also heard on November 14, is printed in pt. 2 of these hearings, with the November 15 testimony.)



ENCLOSURE
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